

KINGS OF THE FOREST

AND THEIR

KINDRED
TRIBES

+



WITH 235
ILLUSTRATIONS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

QL 706
Chap. Copyright No.

Shelf. F. 73.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.







THE KING OF BEASTS.

FRONTISPIECE.

[African Lion.—See page 53.]

Kings of the Forest

AND THEIR KINDRED TRIBES.

Pictures and Stories of the World's Wild Animals,

COLLECTED AND ARRANGED FOR THE AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION OF
READERS OF ALL AGES, BUT ESPECIALLY

≡ FOR THE YOUNG ≡

William A. Foster
BY W. A. FOSTER.



GRIZZLY BEAR.

PUBLISHED BY THE
CHARLES FOSTER PUBLISHING CO.,
No. 716 Sansom Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

8340 X
22



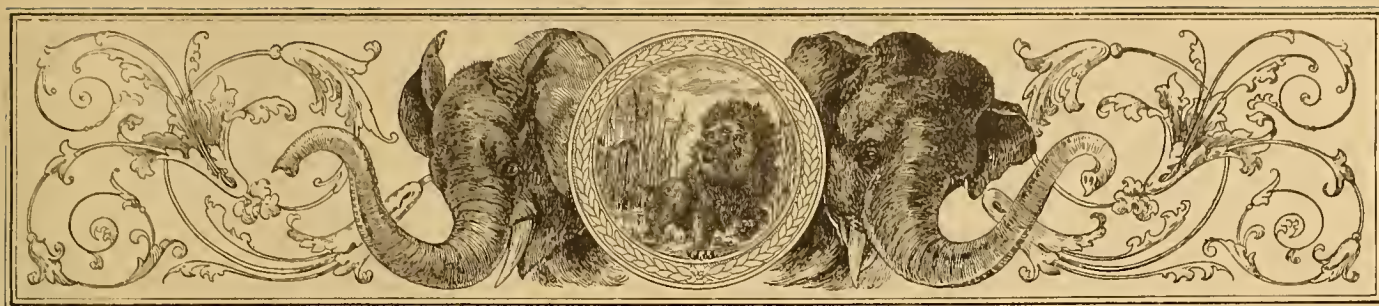
GREAT WHITE BEAR (Arctic Regions).

The food of the White Bear is seals and fish, which it captures in the icy waters of the Polar Sea.

(See page 134.)

COPYRIGHT, 1892, BY W. A. FOSTER.

Q.L 706
.E 73



PREFACE.

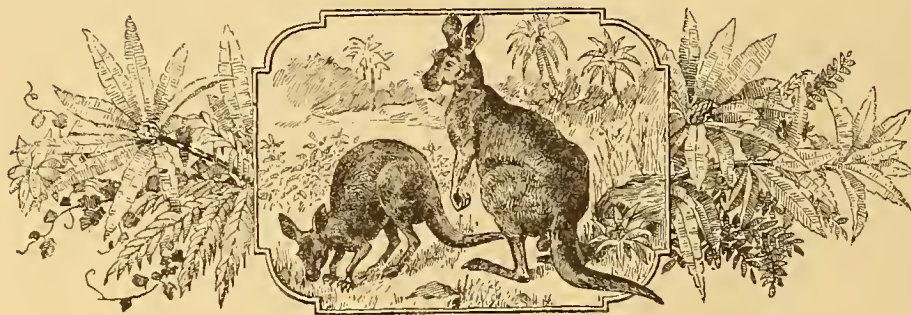
The appearance and habits of the wild animals that live in the forests of our own, and other lands can be known to most of us only through books. But our acquaintance with them need not, for this reason, be scanty or incomplete: their story is fully told by the many Naturalists and Hunters who have visited them in their native forests and studied out all their ways.

While some of these writers have never traveled beyond the boundaries of our own land, or perhaps may have even lived near our own homes, they yet find much to tell us about wild creatures which we seldom see, whose habits, except for the keen sight and patient study of these lovers of nature and her works, would never be known. But of far more thrilling interest, are the experiences of those who, having journeyed to foreign lands, are able, with ready pen and skillful pencil, to picture to us the beautiful, the strange—the sometimes hideous forms of savage beasts which people the dark solitudes of African and Indian forests.

It must be said, however, that interesting in part, as these books upon Natural History always are, they fail to be attractive, as a whole, to many persons, because of the scientific terms which are used in them, and the space given to dry disquisitions upon the species and structure of animals which, while necessary for the student, are not interesting to the average—and especially the young reader, who is usually less concerned about the ancestry, the bones, or the internal organs of a wild beast than in its outward shape and appearance, its habits of life, and the methods used by man in capturing or killing it.

It seems, therefore, that there exists a need for a work upon the subject which will not be found tedious by young readers, yet will give to them accurate information concerning the size, shape, color and general habits of the world's wild animals, together with stories of adventure by those who have hunted them.

While the author of this book can make but little claim to originality, and none whatever to any new discoveries in the field of Natural Science, he hopes that by gathering together, from many sources, that which has seemed to him most interesting upon this subject, both of description and story, and by giving this in a more condensed form and in simpler language than has heretofore been done, accompanied by many pictures, he has made a book that will attract, not children alone, but perhaps some older persons who have hitherto found but little to interest them in this fascinating branch of study.





INDEX.

A.

	PAGE
Addax	251
Adive	36
African Jackal.	41
" Wolf	42
" Lion and Lioness	57
" Elephant	158
Africans Cutting up an Elephant	165
African Guide.	252
Alpaca	214
Ant Eater, Cape.	284
" Great.	285
Antelope, Addax	251
" Bubalis	253
" Black Buck	256
" Chamois.	259
" Eland.	255
" Gazelle	254
" Gnu	257
" Koo Doo	247
" Nilgau	244
" Oryx	248
" Prong-Horn	243
" Sable	245
" Water Buck	249
An Old Tusker	160
Ape, Barbary	30
Arab Sword Hunters	182
Arctic Fox	35
Arctic Scene	135

	PAGE
Armadillo, Great	286
" Ball	287
Attacked by an Angry Hippopotamus.	191
At the River's Side.	188
Asiatic Elephant.	159
Axis Deer	230

B.

Baboon.	26
Babirussa	206
Baby Elephant	169
Bactrian Camel	210
" " Kneeling.	212
Badger.	118
Battle in the Stream	185
Bear, Black :	123
" Brown.	124
" Grizzly	127
" " and Cubs	128
" Malayan.	125
" Syrian	133
" White.	126
Beaver	281
Beech Martin	107
Bhunder Monkey	24
Big-Horn	262
Binturong	98
Bison and Grizzly	129
Bison	217
Black Buck	256
Black Maned Lion	55
Black Rat	271
Black Rhinoceros	173
Boar, Wild	199
Boar Breaks Away	205
Brown Rat	271
Bubalis	253
Buffalo, African	219
" Indian	223
Bullet just in time	178
Burchell's Zebra	197
Bush Hog	198

C.

Caca-Mixtli	140
Cai	31
Camel, Bactrian	210
" Dromedary	211

Canada Lynx	83
Cape Buffalo	219
" Ant Eater	284
Capucin Monkey.	31
Capybara	282
Caracal.	85
Cashmere Goat	270
Cat, American Wild	79
" Clouded Tiger.	70
" Egyptian	81
" European Wild	80
" Marbled	71
" Pampas	78
" Viverrine.	74
Chamois	259
Charge of a Wounded Boar	202
Cheetah	82
Chimpanzee.	25
Civet.	94
Coati Mondí	139
Corsac	36
Coyote	39
Creeping Away	65
Crested Seal	150

D.

Dauw	197
Death of the Boar	203
Death of the Guide	163
Deer, Axis	230
" Elk.	237
" Fallow	235
" Moose	239
" "	241
" Pampas	227
" Red	229
" Reindeer	233
" Roe	231
Delundung	97
Diana Monkey	22
Dingo	40
Dragged Ashore	190
Dromedary	211
Duck-Billed Platypus	288

E.

Eared Dog	38
Egyptian Cat	81

	PAGE
Eland	255
Elephant, African	158
" Asiatic	159
Elephant's Charge upon a Tiger	68
Elk's Plunge for Life	237
Ermine.	108
European Lynx	86
" Wolf	47
Eyra	76

F.

Fallow Deer.	235
Fatal Shot	261
Fennec.	37
Ferret	109
Fight between Indian Buffaloes.	215
Fin-back Whale	145
Fire Hunters Escape the Flames	168
Fire Hunt	167
Flying Squirrel	274
Fox, Arctic.	35
" Red.	33
" Silver	34
Fur Seal	154

G.

Gaur.	220
Gaunt and Hungry.	48
Gayal	221
Gazelle.	254
Gelada.	28
Genet	95
Giants of the Herd	160
Gibbon	17
Giraffe.	209
" Feeding from the Ground.	208
Glutton	121
Gnu	257
Goat, Cashmere	270
" Persian Wild.	267
" Rocky Mountain	266
Gorilla	19
Gorillas in the African Forest	21
Gray Wolf	45
Great Weasel	101
Great White Bear	4
Grizzly Bear	3

Grizzly Bear	127
“ “ and Cubs	128
Ground Hog	279
Guanaco	213
Guereza Monkey	20

H.

Hare	275
Harp Seal	149
Hartebeest	253
Help comes just in time	131
Hippopotamus	183
“	187
Home of the Jaguar	89
Hunt on Horseback	179
Hyenas eating bones	52
Hyena, Spotted	49
“ Striped	50

I.

Ibex	269
Ichneumon	115
“ Indian	116
Indian Buffalo	223
“ Rhinoceros	174
“ “	177

J.

Jackal, African	41
Jaguar	87
“ and Monkeys	91
Jungle Cat	78

K.

Kahau	18
Kalan	114
Kangaroo	143
“ leaping	144
Keitloa	173
King of Beasts	2
Kinkajou	102
Koo Doo	247

L.

	PAGE
Leopard	69
“ Hunting.	82
“ Seal	151
Lion	2
“ African	57
“ Barbary.	53
“ Black Maned	55
Lioness.	59
Llama	213
Long-nosed Monkey	18
Luwack	96
Lynx Canada	83
“ Caracal	85
“ European	86
“ Pardine	84

M.

Mampalon.	117
Maned Sheep of Atlas Mountains.	265
Marbled Cat	71
Martin, Beech.	107
“ Pine	106
Malayan, or Sun Bear.	125
Meeting for a Boar Hunt	200
Mexican Raccoon	140
“ Weasel	102
Mink.	104
Mongoos	116
Monkey, Barbary Ape	30
“ Baboon	26
“ Capucin.	31
“ Chimpanzee	25
“ Diana	22
“ Gelada	28
“ Gibbon.	17
“ Gorilla	19
“ “	21
“ Guereza	20
“ Long-Nosed	18
“ Macaque	27
“ Magot	30
“ Mandrill	29
“ Orang Outan	22
“ Rhesus	24
Moose	239
Mountain Lion.	93
Mouflon.	264
Musk Ox	225
Musk Rat	272

N.

PAGE

Natives' Watch Tower	171
Nilgau	244

O.

Ocelot	72
“ on the watch	73
Otocyon	38
Off at full speed	201
Opossum	141
Orang-Outan	23
Oryx	248
Otter, Common	113
“ Sea.	114

P.

Pampas Cat	78
“ Deer	227
Panda	119
Panther	93
Paradoxure	96
Pardine Lynx	84
Pharaoh's Rat	115
Pine Martin	106
Polar Bear	126
Polecat	110
Pool in Central Africa	189
Porcupine	283
Prairie Dog	277
Prong-Horn Antelope	243
Puma	93

Q.

Quagga	196
------------------	-----

R.

Rabbit	276
Raccoon	138
“ Mexican	140
Red Deer	229
“ Fox	33
“ Wolf	46

	PAGE
Rat, Black	271
“ Brown	271
“ Musk	272
Reindeer	233
Rhesus Monkey	24
Rimau-Dahan	70
Rhinoceros, Black	173
“ “	175
“ Indian	174
“ “	177
“ Trapped	181
Rocky Mountain Goat	266
Roe Deer	231
Rorqual	145
Royal Tiger	61

S.

Sable, American	106
“ European	105
“ Antelope	245
Scene in Southern Africa	51
Sea Lion	148
“ Otter	114
Seal, Crested	150
“ Elephant	152
“ Fur	154
“ Harp	149
“ Leopard	151
“ Rookery	153
Serval	75
Sheep, Big Horn	262
“ Maned, of the Atlas Mountains	265
“ Mouflon	264
“ of Turkestan	263
Silver Fox	34
Skeleton of an Elephant	157
Skunk	111
South American Weasel	100
Sperm Whale	147
Spoiling for a fight	175
Spotted Hyena	49
Squirrel	273
“ Flying	274
Stand-up fight	172
Stoat	108
Striped Hyena	50
Sun Bear	125
Suricat	103
Syrian Bear	133

T.

PAGE

Tapir, Malayan	194
“ South American	193
Tayra	101
Teledu	112
Tiger	61
“ charged by an Elephant	68
“ creeping away	65
“ comes out of its hiding place	66
“ hunters mounted on Elephant	62
“ springs upon Elephant	63
“ and Tigress	64
“ turns aside into the grass	67
Trapped Rhinoceros	181
Two-Horned Black Rhinoceros	173

V.

Vicuna	214
Viverrine Cat	74

W.

Walrus	155
Wart-Hog	207
Water Buck	249
“ Mole	288
Weasel	99
“ South American	100
Whale, Fin-Back	145
“ Sperm	147
White Bear	4
“ “	126
“ “ and Walrus	137
White-Throated Martin	107
Wild Boar	199
“ Cat, American	79
“ “ European	80
“ Goat of Persia	267
“ Sheep of Turkestan	263
Wolf, African	42
“ Common	43
“ European	47
“ Gray	45
“ Red	46
Wolves attacking a wounded Moose	241
Wolverine	121
Wood-Chuck	279

Y.

PAGE

Yaguarondi	77
Yak	224

Z.

Zebra	195
“ Burchell’s	197
Zebu	222
Zibeth	97



**GIBBON MONKEYS.**

A shy and timid species. Very abundant in the hill countries of India. Height $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color black and white.

MONKEYS.

In countries where the air is warm, and the sun shines brightly almost the whole year round, there are many creatures called monkeys. They are sometimes called four-handed animals because

they can grasp the branches of trees with both feet and hands.

There are a great many different kinds of monkeys; some are so large and fierce that they can easily kill a man with their sharp teeth and strong claws. Others are so small and timid that if a man should go into the forest where they live, they would quickly run up to the tops of the tallest trees and hide in their branches. The GIBBONS are of this kind. They are not very large, and are so light and nimble that they

can leap from tree to tree, even when quite a long distance separates them.

They do not merely walk or run about upon the branches, but swing themselves along by hanging to the boughs with their long arms. Hand over hand like a sailor, and from the end of one slender branch to another, they dash about overhead and move so swiftly as to seem almost to fly through the air, yet never miss their hold or fall to the ground.



KAHAU, OR LONG-NOSED MONKEY.

Common in the forests of Borneo. Height three feet; color sandy brown.

The largest and fiercest of the monkey tribe is the GORILLA, and of all the wild beasts that roam the dark forests of Africa, none have aroused more curiosity, and at the same time dread, on the part of the hunter.

The Gorilla is of the ape species. It lives in the loneliest and darkest parts of the African jungle, and is seldom seen by white men. When this great beast stands erect, it is as tall as a man, but it has vastly more strength in its hairy arms and ugly jaws than any man ever had.

One blow of its huge paw will crush the skull, and its great jaws, with their powerful teeth, are strong enough to dent a gun barrel. It is the rule of the Gorilla hunter not to fire until the animal is so near as

to make his aim certain, for if the hunter fires and misses, the Gorilla at once rushes upon him, and this attack no man can resist.

One blow of that black paw, with its bony claws, and the poor hunter lies crushed upon the ground. There have been negroes, who, in such cases, made desperate by their danger, have faced the Gorilla and struck at him with the empty gun. They had but time for one harmless blow;



GORILLA.

[19]

The largest of the monkey tribe. Height, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color, black. It is found only in the dense forests of Western Africa.

the next moment the terrible paw came down with fatal force, breaking musket and skull at the same time. Probably no animal is more dangerous when attacking man than the Gorilla, for it meets him face to face, and uses its arms as weapons, just as a prize-fighter would; but its arms are longer and its strength far greater than the strongest boxer that ever lived.

Now as the Gorilla is found only in the depths of the darkest woods, it is difficult for the hunter to get sight of it. There are so many tangled branches and vines on every side that but little can be seen.

When, however, by accident or good management, he does come upon the fierce beasts, which are generally found in pairs, sitting at the foot or in the lower branches of some huge tree, he need have no fear of his prey running away from him. With eyes that sparkle with anger the male Gorilla rises to his full height, and, beating his broad breast with his hairy arms, utters a frightful roar. The hunter must now await his coming, as with clumsy, waddling gait he approaches. Waiting until the animal is within fifteen or twenty

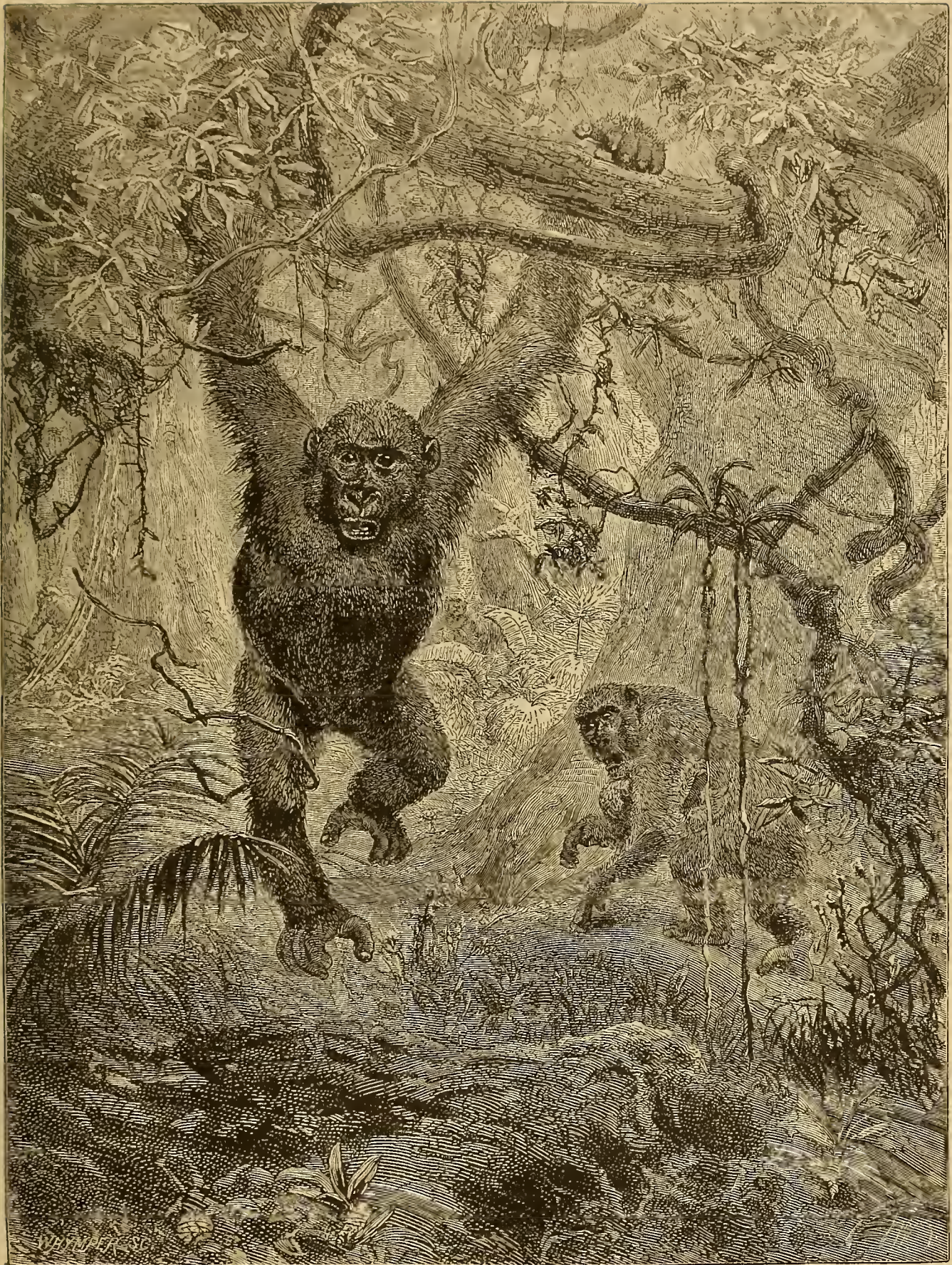


THE GUEREZA.

A small and gentle monkey much valued for the beauty of its fur, which is long and silky. This species is found in Abyssinia; its color is partly jet black and partly pure white, as shown in the picture.

feet, the hunter then raises his gun; the opportunity has come at last; a moment's careful aim is taken at the broad breast, and the trigger pulled. But if the bullet does not strike the mark the hunter must fight for his life, face to face, and can only hope by some lucky chance to escape instant destruction.

Fortunately the Gorilla dies as quickly as a man; a shot in the breast



GORILLAS IN THE AFRICAN FOREST.

fairly delivered, is sure to bring him down. He falls forward on his face with long powerful arms outstretched, and with his last breath utters a terrible yell, which, while it means safety to the hunter, yet makes him tremble at its savage power.

Although Gorillas have long sharp teeth, and such great strength as would enable them to kill almost any animal of the forest where they live; they are not meat eaters, but live upon nuts and berries of various kinds. The wild sugar cane is also a favorite food.



DIANA MONKEYS; Africa.

This species is remarkable for the varied colors of its fur: the back is dark brown, the under parts bright orange, the beard pure white, and other portions are marked with bands of black and gray. Length of body 2 feet.*

Having thus prevented its escaping on their branches, they then fell the tree on which it is seated and endeavor to secure it before it has recovered from the shock of the fall.

HUNTING THE ORANG-OUTAN.

The following story told by a hunter, shows the strong affection that monkeys have for their young: We were once out on a shooting expedition in the Island of Sumatra, when we saw, in some trees which were just outside of a dense forest, a large female orang-outan with her young one.

* In giving "length of body," the measurement always includes the head of the animal.



ORANG-OUTAN (meaning wild man of the woods).

Found only in the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. It is one of the largest and most powerful of the apes, reaching a height of nearly five feet. It is almost entirely a tree dweller, and of shy nature. In color it is reddish-brown. [23]

We at once commenced pursuit, and in the hope of obtaining so fine a specimen, forgot everything but the prize before us.

We urged on the native guides, and offered them a reward if successful in overtaking the fleeing animal, which had by this time seen us, and was trying to reach a place to hide.

Thus encouraged, the men followed up the chase: the Orang-Outan carrying her young one in her arms, put forth great efforts to reach the darkest portion of the forest, springing from tree to tree, and endeavoring by every means to escape from her pursuers.

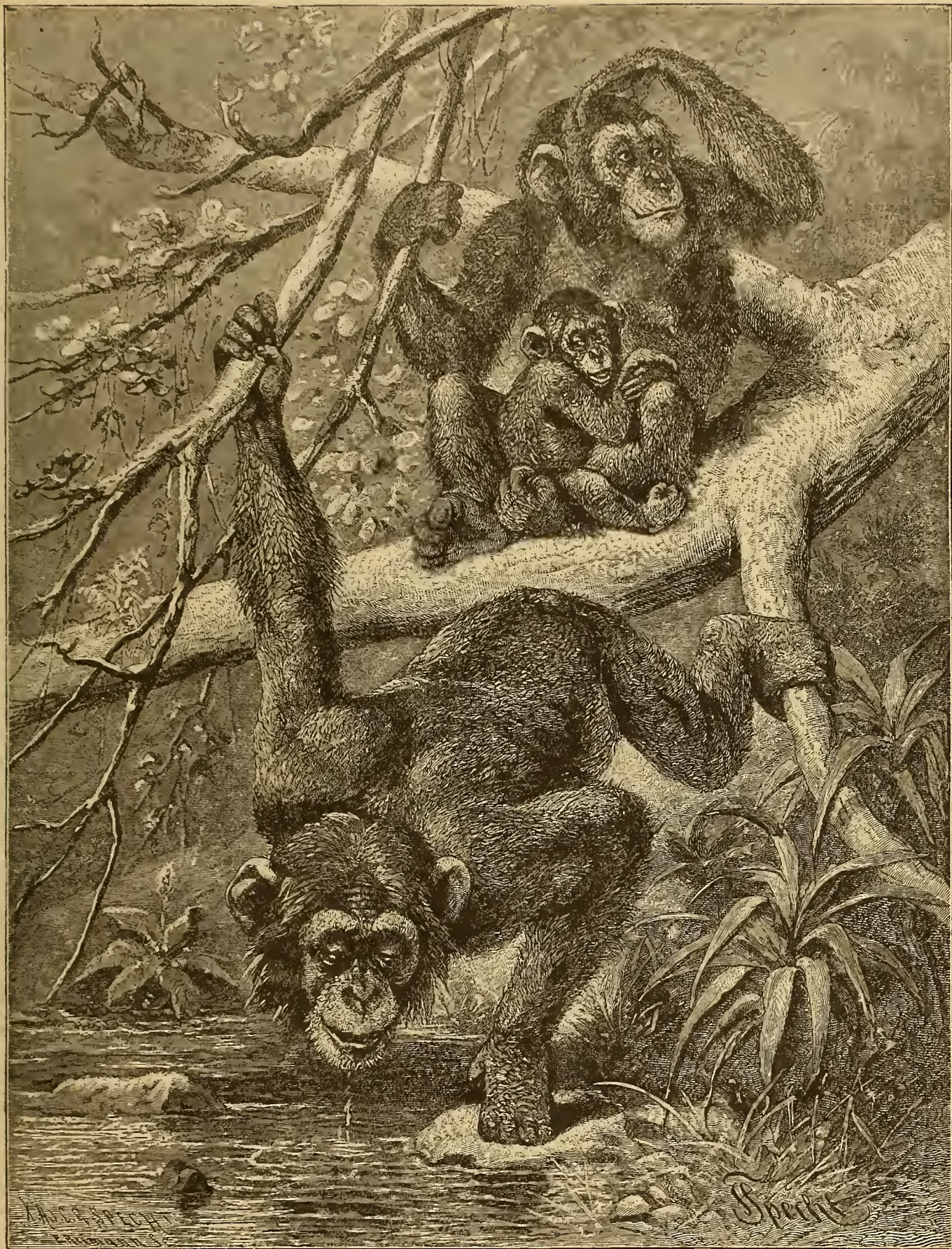


RHESUS, OR BHUNDER MONKEYS.

Common in India, where they are considered sacred by the natives who never molest them, no matter how much damage they may do to their fruit and crops. Length of body 2 feet; color olive green, brown and yellow.

Several shots were fired, and at length one took fatal effect, the ball entering the right side of the chest. Feeling herself mortally wounded, and with the blood gushing from her mouth, she from that moment seemed to have no care for her own safety, but, with a true mother's instinct, exerted all her dying strength to save her young.

Now she threw it onward, from branch to branch, taking the most desperate leaps after it herself, and again helping it forward until, the



CHIMPANZEE.

The most interesting and intelligent of the apes. It is frequently shown in menageries, and can be taught to imitate many human habits. Several have been brought to this country while young; but they do not usually live very long, as the climate is too cold for them.

The Chimpanzee is found in Africa. Its height is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color, black, excepting the face, which is grayish-white.

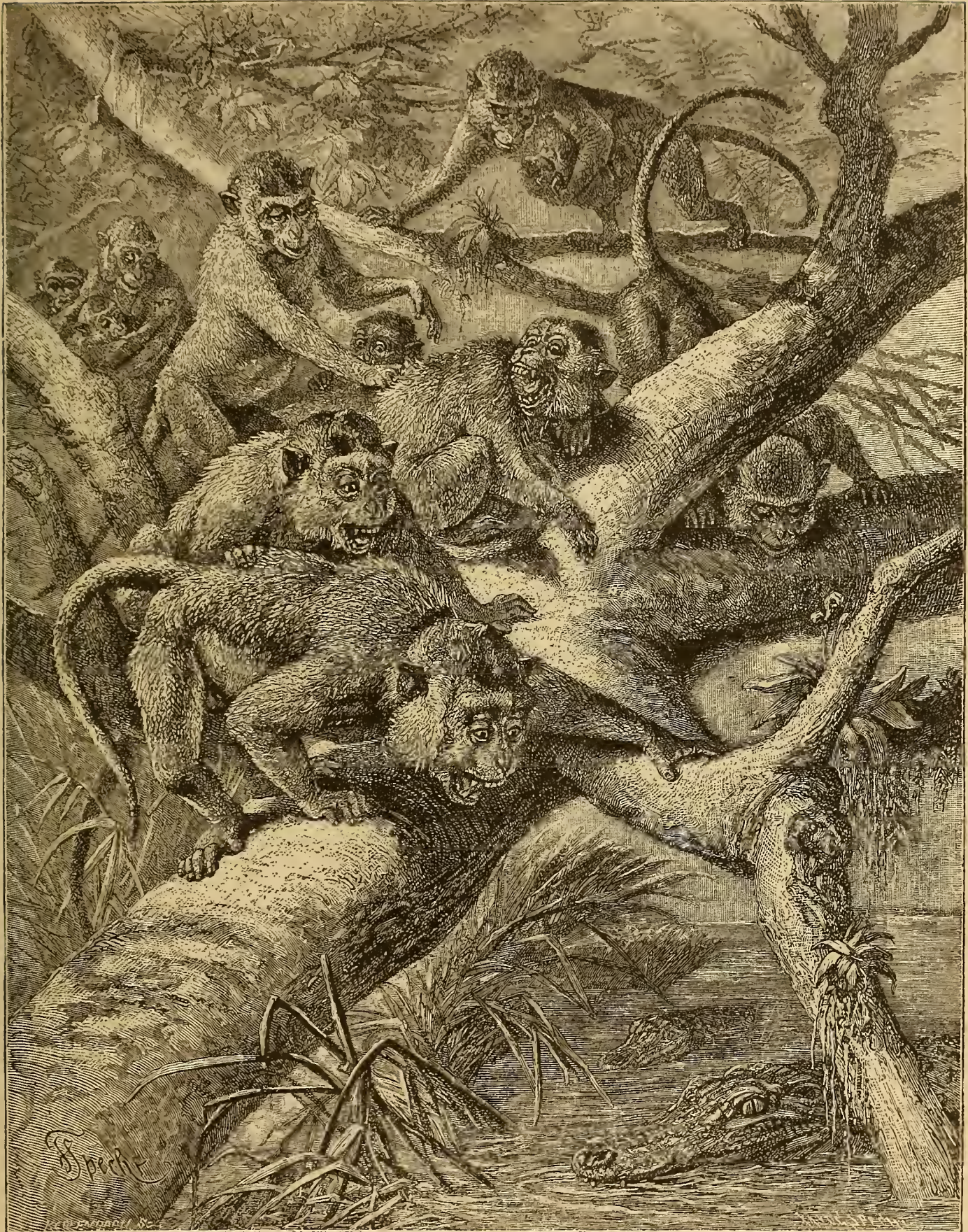
thickest part of the woods being nearly gained, the chances of its escape were nearly sure. All this time the blood was flowing from her wound, but her efforts were unabated, and it was only when her young one was on the point of gaining a place of safety that she rested on one of the topmost branches of a gigantic tree. True in her affection, even to the last, she turned for a moment to gaze after her little one, then her hold relaxed and she fell head foremost to the ground.



COMMON BABOON.

Found throughout Africa; length three feet; color brown. These animals live in large herds, and will unite in driving away any trespassers upon their rocky home, by throwing down on them sticks and stones.

The sight was so touching that it called forth the pity of the whole party. The eagerness of the chase was forgotten; and so deep an impression did the unexpected tenderness and self-devotion of the poor animal make on the hunter who tells the story, that he resolved never again to level a gun at one of the monkey tribe.



MACAQUES.

These monkeys are very numerous in India, and are of a lively, harmless nature. They are frequently caught and sent to other countries for exhibition in menageries and shows. Length, two feet; color, brown.

When caught before they are fully grown, and kindly treated, monkeys can be taught many amusing tricks. On shipboard they are often to be found and are great pets with the sailors. A passenger tells of this experience:—

We had a monkey, of the Diana species, on board, which had been bought by the cook of the vessel in which I sailed from Africa, and was

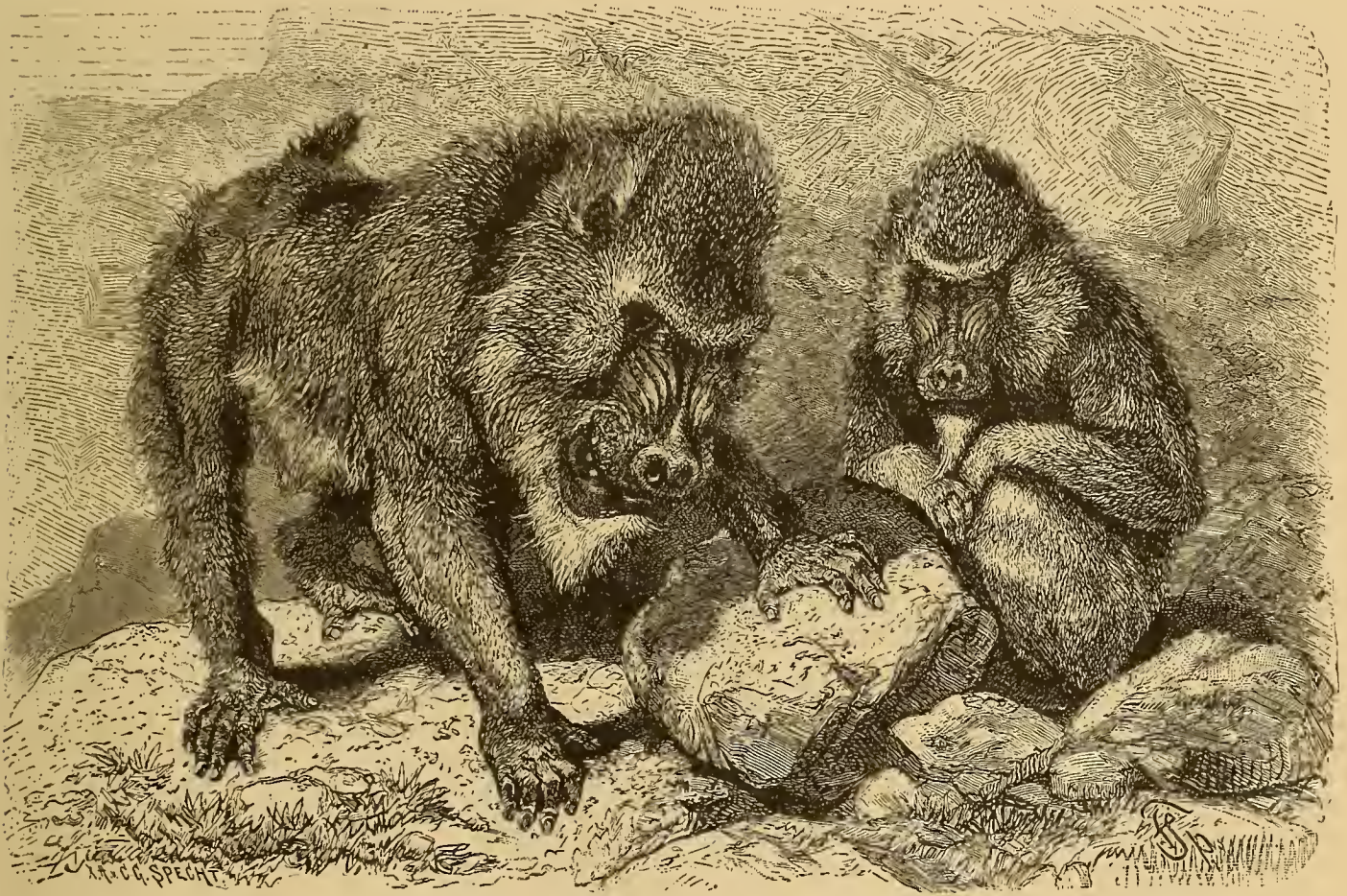


THE GELADA.

A species of Baboon found in the mountains of Abyssinia; length about 3 feet; color brown. They sometimes come down from the rocky heights upon which they live, and do much damage to fields of ripening grain.

considered his exclusive property. At first "Jack's" place was close to the "calaboose" or kitchen, but as his education progressed he was gradually allowed an increase of liberty, till at last he enjoyed the range of the whole ship, except the cabins.

I had embarked with more than a mere dislike to monkeys—it was absolute antipathy; and although I often laughed at Jack's freaks, still I kept out of his way, till a circumstance brought with it a closer acquaintance, and cured me of my aversion. Our latitude was three degrees south, and we only proceeded by occasional tornadoes, the intervals of which were filled up by dead calms and bright weather. When these occurred during the day the helm was frequently lashed, and all the watch went below.



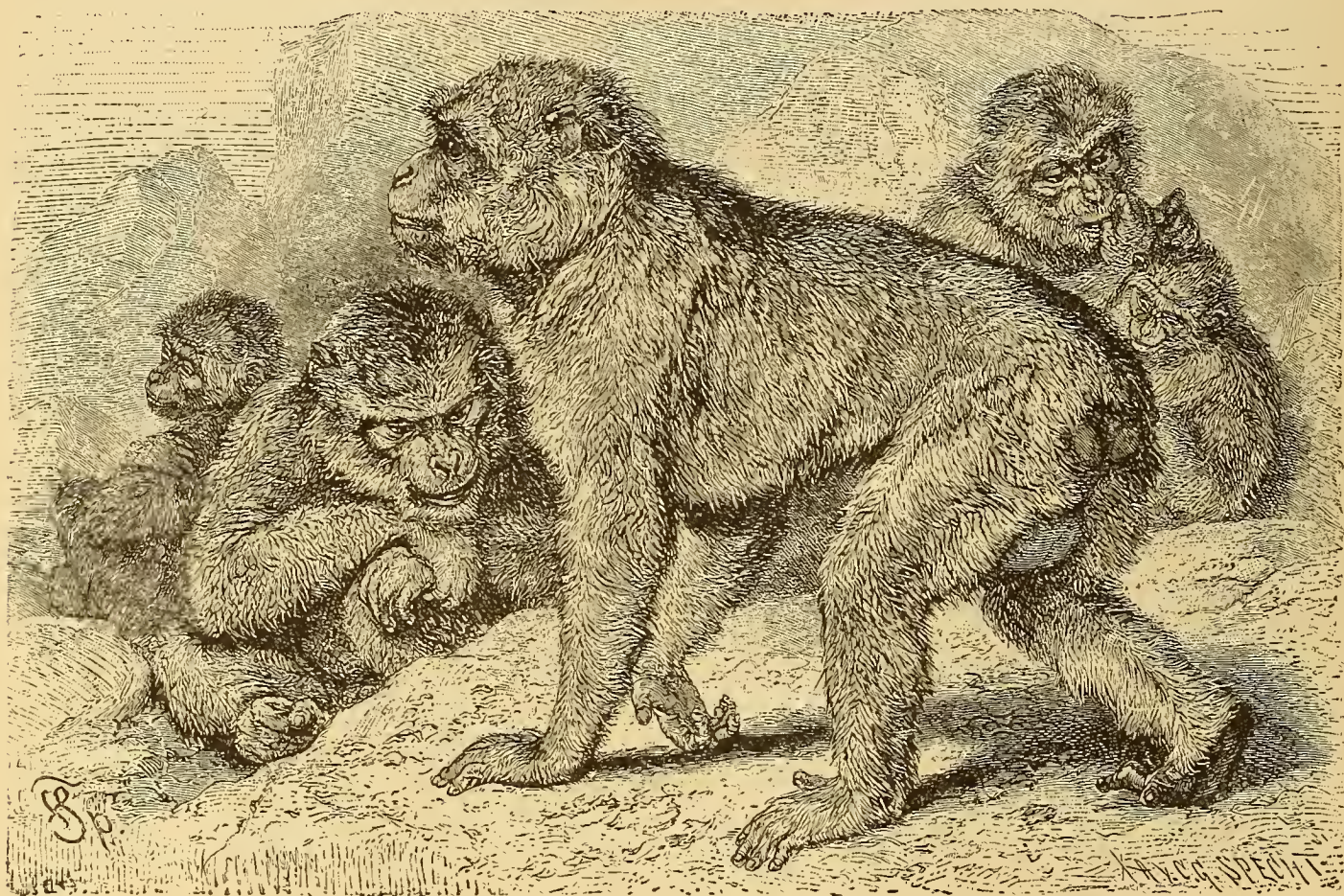
THE MANDRILL.

Length about 3 feet. The faces and thighs of these baboons are striped with bright red, blue and black bands. They are powerful animals, of savage nature, much dreaded by the natives of the Guinea Coast, where herds of them are to be found.

On one of these occasions I was sitting alone on the deck, and reading intently, when, in an instant, something jumped upon my shoulders, twisted its tail round my neck, and screamed close to my ears. My immediate conviction that it was Jack scarcely relieved me; but there was no help—I dared not cry for assistance, because I was afraid of him, and dared not obey the next impulse, which was to thump him off, for the same reason. I therefore became civil from necessity, and from that

moment Jack and I became more friendly. He gradually loosened his hold, looked into my face, examined my hands with the most minute attention, and soon found the biscuit which lay by my side.

When I liked him well enough to profit by his friendship, he became a constant source of amusement. Like all other ship monkeys, he was fond of pulling off the men's caps as they slept, and throwing them into the sea; of knocking over the parrots' cages to drink the water as it trickled along the deck, regardless of the occasional nips he received; of



MAGOT, OR BARBARY APE: Northern Africa.

Large troops of these apes live upon the Rock of Gibraltar and are frequently mentioned by travellers. They are 3 feet in length and of a dark gray color. It is said they once saved Gibraltar from surprise and capture by the Spaniards, by awakening the British garrison with their cries.

taking the dried herbs out of the tin mugs in which the men were making tea; of slyly picking out the pieces of biscuit which were toasting between the bars of the grate; of stealing the carpenter's tools: in short, teasing every thing and every body.

He was also a first-rate rider. Whenever the pigs were let out to take a run on deck he took his station behind a cask, whence he leaped on the back of one of his steeds as it passed. Of course the speed was

increased, but Jack was never thrown, and became so fond of the exercise that he was obliged to be shut up whenever the pigs were at liberty. Confinement was the worst punishment he could receive, and whenever threatened with that, or any other, he would cling to me for protection.

At night, when about to be sent to bed in an empty hen-coop, he generally hid himself under my coat, and at last never suffered any one but myself to put him to rest. He was particularly jealous of the other monkeys on board, who were all smaller than himself, and put two out of



CAPUCIN MONKEY, OR CAI; South America.

In the forests of Brazil these little animals live in great troops, inhabiting the tops of lofty trees. They are about 18 inches in length and of a lively and playful nature. The color of their fur is black and yellow.

his way. The first feat of this kind was performed in my presence. He began by holding out his paw, and making a squeaking noise, which the other evidently considered as an invitation; the poor little thing crouched to him most humbly, but Jack seized him by the neck, hopped off to the side of the vessel, and threw him into the sea. We cast out a rope immediately, but the monkey was too much frightened to cling to it, and

we were going too fast to save him by any other means. Of course Jack was flogged and scolded, at which he was very penitent, but the deceitful rogue at the end of three days sent another victim to the same destiny. But his spite against his own race was manifested at another time in a very original way. The men had been painting the ship's side with a streak of white, and upon being summoned to dinner left their brushes and paint on deck.

Unknown to Jack, I was seated behind the companion door, and saw the whole transaction. He called a little black monkey to him, who, like the others, immediately crouched to his superior, when he seized him by the nape of the neck with one paw, took the brush, dripping with paint, with the other, and covered him with white from head to foot.

Both the man at the helm and myself burst into a laugh, upon which Jack dropped his victim and scampered up on the rigging. For three days he remained up on the mast; no one could catch him, he darted with such rapidity from rope to rope; at last getting very hungry, he dropped unexpectedly from some height on my knees, as if for refuge, and as he had confided in me I could not deliver him up to punishment.

At length, after a four months' voyage together the ship reached port, and Jack and I had to part.

I heard afterwards that he seemed to miss me greatly and for many days watched for me in the mornings and searched for me in every direction, even venturing into the cabins.





COMMON FOX AND YOUNG.

Varieties of this well-known species are found in many portions of the world. The American Red Fox is found throughout the United States. In length of body it is 2 feet; length of tail 12 inches; color bright yellowish-brown; under portions white.

THE FOX.

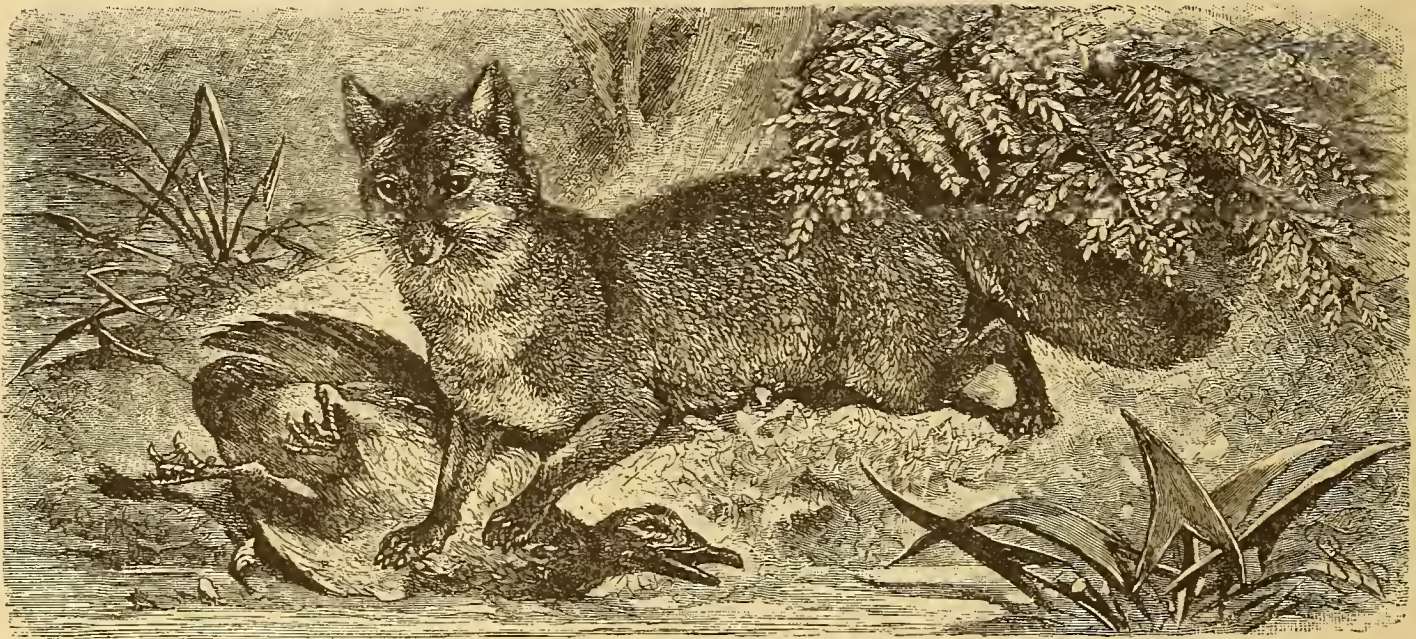
A sly and cunning creature is the Fox, and master of so many crafty tricks that he is generally able to escape from his numerous enemies, and live to a good old age, even in the immediate neighborhood of the hen-roosts which he so often robs.

Foxes are found in many different countries. The common Red Fox,

which is the most numerous, is a pretty little animal, active and swift of foot, with sharp-pointed nose, thick fur, and very bushy tail.

Foxes live in holes in the ground which they dig with their strong fore paws. These burrows are generally started near the roots of a big tree, or carried under a rock, for well does Reynard know that some day the farmer, whose chickens he has been stealing, will come with pick and shovel to dig out the thief. It would be easy to reach the fox if only the soft ground covered him, and as the cunning fellow knows this, he takes advantage of stones and roots when choosing a place for his home.

The fox has a very strong smell or scent: this, with its swiftness of



AMERICAN SILVER FOX.

Color black, mingled with silver gray. This is a rare species; its fur is beautiful and valuable.

foot and cunning, has made hunting it with hounds a very popular sport, especially in England, where the "meet" for a fox hunt is a great event of the country-side.

The hunters come to the starting place, riding upon splendid horses, specially bred for running and jumping. Mounted upon these fine steeds, and wearing bright red coats, white breeches, and high boots, the men present a very fine appearance.

The fox-hounds, which are kept in large packs at great expense, are bred and cared for with as much attention as the horses the hunters ride, and are the finest animals of their kind in the world. When loosed for the hunt they dash off with nose to the ground, and as soon as the scent

of a fox is found, away they go at tremendous speed, sounding now and then that loud, deep bay, which is such sweet music to the fox-hunter's ear.

The men gallop their horses after the hounds and exert every effort to keep near them; away they run, the red coats shining in the sun as they string out across the fields. Over fences and stone walls, through ploughed fields, here jumping a deep ditch half full of water, there



NORTHERN OR ARCTIC FOX; Greenland and the Frozen Lands Bordering the Arctic Ocean.
Length from nose to tip of tail 2 feet; color pure white in winter, and in summer brownish-gray.

leaping a stiff hedge, on they rush after the hounds until the fox is caught, or "run to earth" in a deep burrow. To be "in at the death" of the fox, or the first to arrive after it has been caught by the hounds, is the desire of every fox-hunter, and he whose courage and skillful riding have brought him up to the pack, while the poor fox yet struggles in the fierce jaws, keeps the brush, or tail, as a trophy, and is admired by all for his daring horsemanship.

The fox knows quite as well as the hunters, that it is its strong scent, clinging to the track, that enables the hounds to follow. Therefore

many are the cunning tricks which Reynard uses to throw the dogs off the path.

A favorite one is to stop and run back on its own track for some distance, then to jump as far as possible to one side and run off in another direction. The hounds follow the straight path beyond the place where the new track begins, and lose the scent where the fox has turned back.



CORSAC, OR ADIVE.

One of the smallest of the fox tribe; less than the domestic cat in size. It is found in Tartary, Siberia, and Western Asia. It is such a beautiful little animal that it has frequently been tamed, and was once much valued as a pet by Europeans.

They never had any difficulty in starting him, but after the customary run, all trace of him was lost in the usual fence corner. It surely could not fly, we said; it must have run along the top rail of the fence, and jumped down further on: this is a common trick of these sly creatures. Accordingly, we followed the fence with the whole pack, all around the field, but did not strike the trail again, and made no discovery.

The affair was getting serious, the reputation of our hounds was suffering, and besides I found they were really losing confidence in themselves and would not run with half their former speed and eagerness.

The following story by a fox-hunter shows the wonderful cunning of the animal:—

A FOX-HUNTER'S STORY.

There was a certain briery field, of large size, near the middle of which we could, on almost any morning, start an old fox. After a chase of an hour or so, just enough to warm up the horses and dogs, we always lost him at the same spot, at the corner of the fence near a piece of woods.

This happened so often that it became the standing joke of the country.

Fox-hunters from other neighborhoods would bring their packs for miles to have a run after this wonderful fox.

One day I determined to watch at the fence corner, until I could see with my own eyes, how the fox managed to so often escape from the dogs without leaving the least scent to trace him to his retreat.

On came the pack, heading toward the mysterious corner. I almost held my breath, while I watched in my hiding place for the fox. Soon I saw him coming along, apparently in no hurry, a little ahead of the dogs. When he reached the fence, which was quite hidden in bushes, he climbed to the top rail and walked along it toward the woods in which I was concealed.

Before he had gone far, the hounds came up to where he had left the ground. He very deliberately stopped and looked back: then hurried along the rail until he came to where a dead tree leaned within a few feet of the fence: then made a high, long jump to a knot upon the side of the trunk, up which he ran, and scrambled into a hollow in the top where it had been broken off.

The mystery was at last solved. The tree stood such a distance from the fence, that no one ever dreamed of his being able to jump it; but practice, and the convenient knot, had enabled him to clear it with ease. I was so pleased at the cunning trick which had enabled the fox to throw the hounds off the scent so often, that I did not betray him, and he continued for a long time to be the wonder of the neighboring fox-hunters. Finally, one of them happened to find out the hiding place and revenged himself for many unsuccessful runs, by cutting down the tree and capturing the smart fox.

Another story showing a fox's wonderful cunning is the following:—



FENNEC.

This pretty little fox ranges over a great part of Africa. In color it is a pale fawn, with black tips to ears and tail; the length of its body is hardly 12 inches; the eyes are blue, and the ears large and pointed. It lives in burrows, and seeks its food, which consists of small animals and birds, during the night.

A fisherman sitting among some reeds on the bank of a river, saw a badger moving slowly along a ledge of rock on the opposite side. In a little while a fox came along, seeming very tired by a long run, and after walking for some distance close behind the poor badger, leaped into the water.

Immediately afterwards, a pack of hounds came down at full speed in pursuit of the fox, and following up the scent, the luckless badger was at once torn to pieces, while the cunning fox was by that time floating comfortably down the stream.



OTOCYON, OR EARED DOG; Southern Africa.
Length of body 15 inches; color gray, with black legs and tail.

A FOX THAT PLAYED 'POSSUM.

The fox sometimes pretends to be dead when caught in a tight place, and often escapes by that trick. A farmer who found that a fox had climbed into his hen house by means of a projecting board, sawed this nearly in two, so that when the sharp-nosed thief called again for a supper of tender chicken, he broke the plank with his weight, and dropped into the enclosure, from which he could not escape.

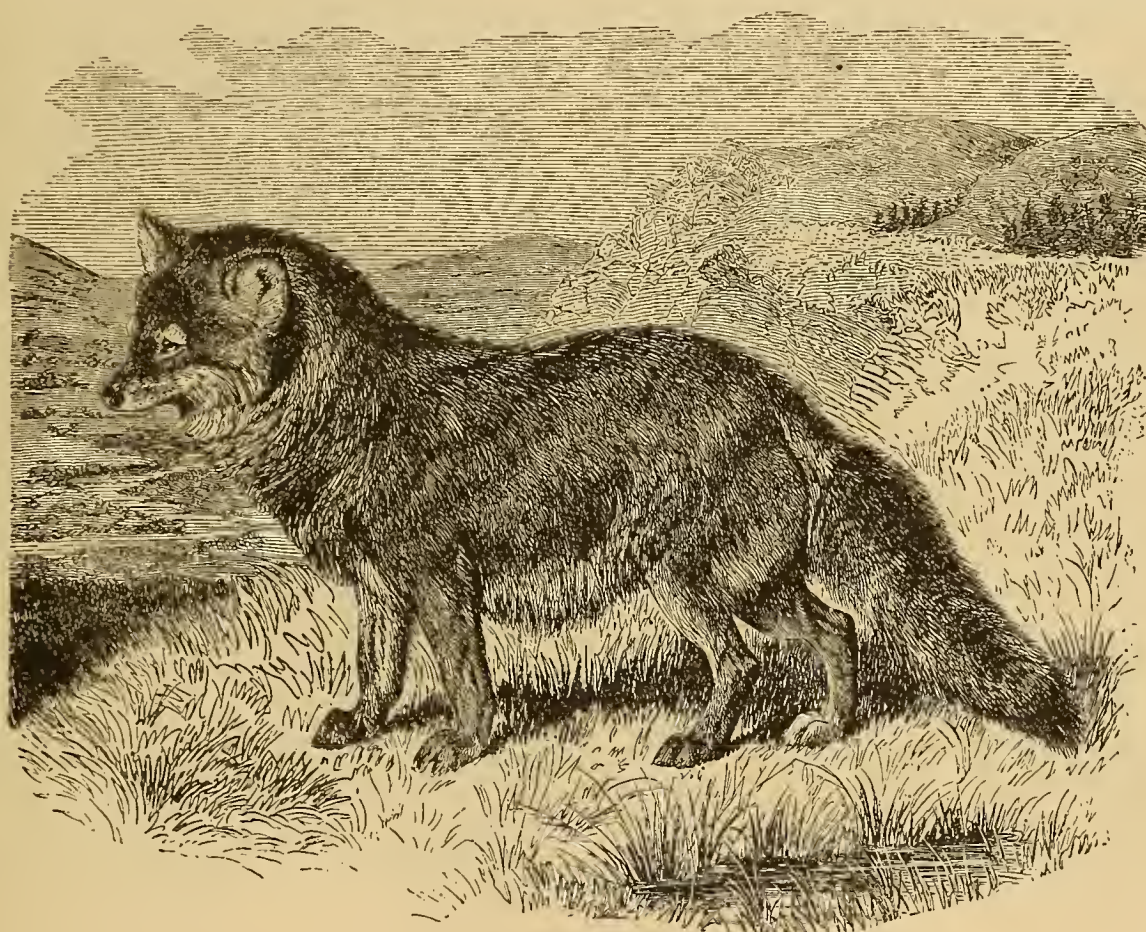
In the morning the farmer found the fox lying on the ground, apparently stiff and lifeless. That is a good riddance thought he, and taking up the furry rascal by the tail, threw him out into the barnyard. To his great surprise and mortification the fox opened his eyes, and seeing the way clear, jumped to his feet and galloped off to the woods.

A TAME FOX.

Even when tamed the fox is the same cunning fellow as when he is running wild in the forest. One that was kept in a stable-yard, had

managed to strike up a friendship with some of the dogs and would play with them by the hour. The cats, however, would never approach him, as their delicate sense of smell was offended by the strong foxy odor which clung to him.

The crafty animal soon found that the cats would not come near him, and made use of his knowledge to cheat them out of their breakfast. As soon as the stable-boy poured out the cats' milk, the fox would run to



COYOTE.

This little animal ranges over the plains of Western North America. It is noted for its swiftness of foot and cunning, which enable it to live upon the prairies long after all other wild animals have disappeared. Length of body 2 feet; color yellowish gray.

the spot and walk around the saucer, well knowing that the rightful owners would not touch it, on account of the scent which he had left there. When he was hungry, which was nearly always, he would then lap up the milk, while poor pussy looked on from a distance, with many a mournful mew for her departing breakfast. Day after day the cats lost their milk until the fox's trick was discovered, and the milk placed out of his reach.

These stories show what a cunning creature the Fox is, and, although

we, perhaps, cannot respect such a crafty, thievish disposition as his, yet we must admire the ability which enables him to live among so many enemies.

When once safely housed in his cosy burrow, he can laugh at the efforts of men and dogs to reach him, and can rest from long runs, of fifteen or twenty miles; rising refreshed, for further attacks upon the farmer's poultry yard.



DINGO, OR AUSTRALIAN WILD DOG.

Color yellowish brown and white; height at shoulder 2 feet. In appearance this animal is quite pleasing, and unlike the wolf, although resembling it in its savage nature.

The DINGO looks very much like a friendly house-dog as he stands with ears erect, showing off his soft, brown coat. We feel like patting him on the head and saying,—good dog! but if we did so, a sharp growl and quick snap would be our reward, for he is a wild fellow at heart, and obeys no master's call or whistle.

Australia is the home of the Dingo, and there they hunt their prey in large packs. It is said that each pack knows its proper ground, and will hunt only over a certain district, neither going into the hunting fields of

another pack of Dingoes, nor permitting any trespassers on their own. They are swift of foot, and tireless runners.

In Australia, where such immense flocks of sheep are kept that sometimes the whole country-side, as far as the eye can see, is covered with their white forms, these wild dogs were once terribly destructive.

Sheep-owners counted their missing sheep and lambs by the hundred, and so great was the loss that they held meetings, and arranged for



AFRICAN JACKAL.

These animals live together in troops; in desert regions they follow the caravans, and prowls about encampments during the night searching for scraps of food. In size the jackal resembles the common fox, but stands a little taller; color grayish yellow above and white beneath.

great hunts, to rid the country of the pest. Owing to this, they are at the present time far less numerous.

The Dingo is very hard to kill, and sometimes, like the fox, when all other ways of escape have failed, pretends to be dead. One that had been caught in the act of carrying off a young lamb, was beaten by the enraged shepherd, with a heavy club, until he supposed that every bone in its body was broken. But in a little while it was seen to get up, shake itself, and slink away into the bush.

Another story is told of a Dingo, which was thought to be dead and

had been brought into the hut to be skinned; it actually allowed the skin to be cut open on one side of its face before showing any signs of life.

As a general thing the Dingo will not attack a man, and would rather run away than fight: but when hard pressed it will turn to bay with great ferocity. Many attempts have been made to tame them, and when well fed, and kindly treated they take on some dog-like ways. Their wild nature, however, will constantly show itself, and they cannot be trusted.



AFRICAN WOLF.

It resembles the Jackal in appearance and habits, but is of a somewhat larger size, and bolder nature.

THE WOLF.

In the early years of the settlement of our country, when the great forests stood gloomy and dark, and no cities and towns were to be seen, but only a log house here and there marked the home of the white settler, the howls of Wolves could be heard every night, as the fierce animals prowled around the lonely dwellings in search of prey.

The cattle and sheep had to be strongly housed in those times, or in the morning only a few well-gnawed bones would be found to tell the



COMMON WOLF.

[43]

It is found in nearly all parts of the world, varying in size and color according to the locality in which it lives. The large gray wolf of America sometimes grows to a height of fully $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder, and a length of over five feet from nose to tip of tail.

story of a midnight tragedy. Especially during cold winters were the wolves bold and fierce. Hunger drove them out of the deep woods, to the farms and villages, where they exerted every savage instinct to satisfy their craving for food.

Wolves almost always hunt in packs, and, whether following the track of a lost traveller through the snow, or pursuing some sick or wounded deer, they are the same treacherous, tireless animals, and are to be dreaded by all persons who are compelled to travel alone through the wild regions in which they dwell.

The bite of a wolf is a succession of sharp, fierce snaps. Instead of making its teeth meet in the flesh, and keeping a firm hold of its prey, the wolf bites as rapidly as it can open and close its jaws; each snap tears and mangles the flesh of its victim. So strong are its jaws that when they miss their mark, the sharp teeth clash together with the sound of a closing steel trap. These quick, snapping bites enable the wolf to wound and kill animals much larger and stronger than itself.

The most tempting morsel to a wolf is a little pig, and the squeals of a young porker will bring them for miles. Some hunters at a frontier fort once took advantage of the wolves' fondness for pig in the following manner.

A WOLF HUNT.

One cold winter's day a sleigh was loaded up with warm furs and provisions, plenty of guns; and last, but not least, a lively young pig was thrown in, which had been tied up in a bag for convenience in carrying, leaving only his head exposed.

On reaching a distant and lonely place in the woods, a little pinching, and pulling of his ears produced loud squeals from poor piggy. This was just what the hunters had brought him for, and more pinches and pulls were given, and still louder squeals followed as a protest against such treatment.

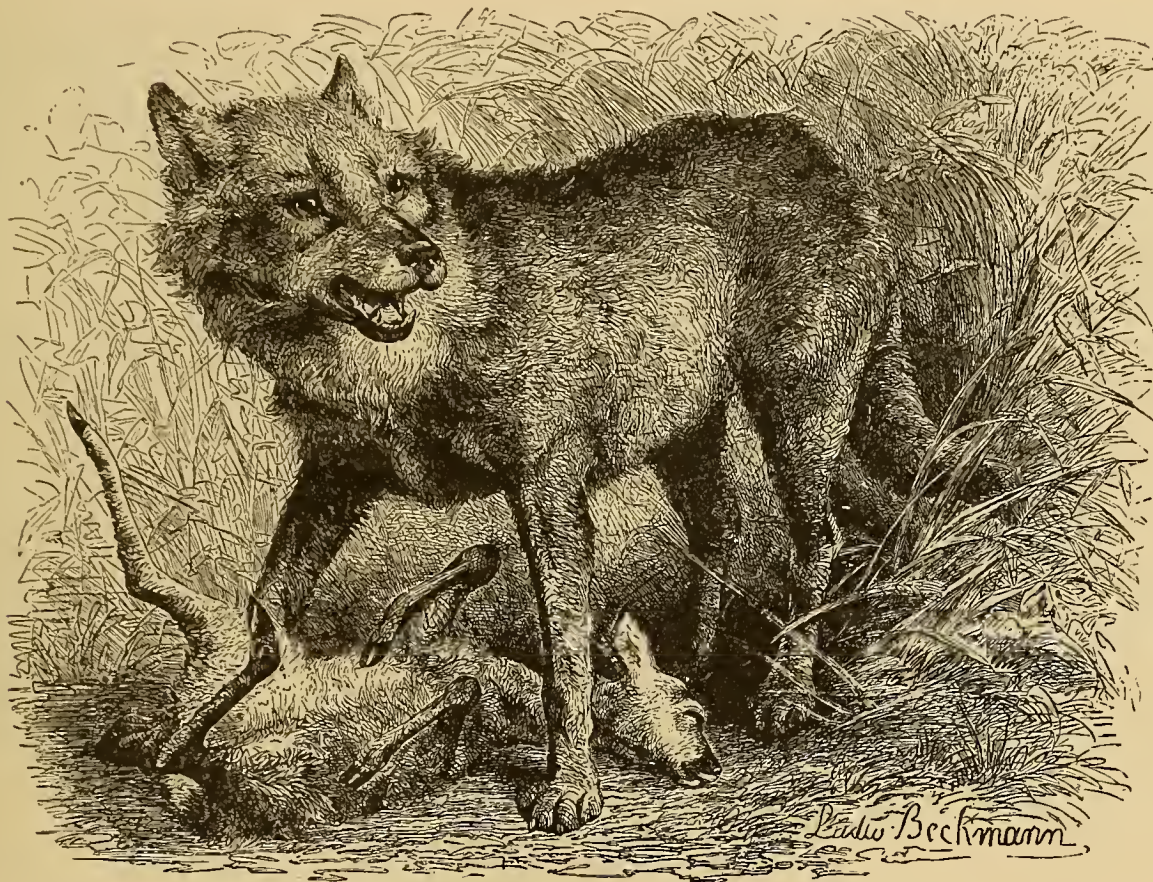
In a short time the howls of famished wolves were heard, drawing nearer and nearer, and soon the savage beasts were seen closing around the sleigh.

Bang! went the hunters' guns as soon as the pack came within range, and for a time the slaughter went on finely. It was noticed—and this is always the habit of the wolf—that as soon as one of their number was shot down, the others pounced upon him and devoured his carcass, tearing,

snapping, and growling over the feast, little caring, apparently that it was one of their own companions whose bones they were picking.

After a time it was noticed that although the hunters quickly reloaded and fired at the advancing pack, the number of wolves still more rapidly increased, and presently one, bolder than the rest, jumped at the heads of the horses, which had with difficulty been restrained from dashing away at the first noise of the conflict.

Seeing that the affair was becoming dangerous, the hunters threw the



AMERICAN GRAY WOLF.

Formerly common in all portions of our country, but now found only in the wilder parts.

pig, whose squeals had proved so effectual, out to the advancing pack, and while the fierce beasts were fighting for a taste of this delicious morsel, the horses were lashed to their greatest speed and the wolves left far behind. Only for a little while, however, were the hunters out of danger: but a few minutes were needed for the ravenous beasts to divide the last shred of the pig, and having done this, they resumed their pursuit of the sleigh.

With long tireless gallop, and numbers largely increased, the wolves rapidly gained on the flying horses. The hunters loaded and fired with

the utmost rapidity, and the leaders of the pack were shot down as they came near the sleigh, but it seemed as if a score of others immediately took their places.

It began to look as if the party would soon be torn by the sharp teeth of their pursuers. Throw them the provisions! cried one; Out with the robes! said another, and down to the howling pack were hurled the furs and hampers.

With fierce snarls and wide-open jaws the wolves leaped upon the cast-



RED WOLF; South America.

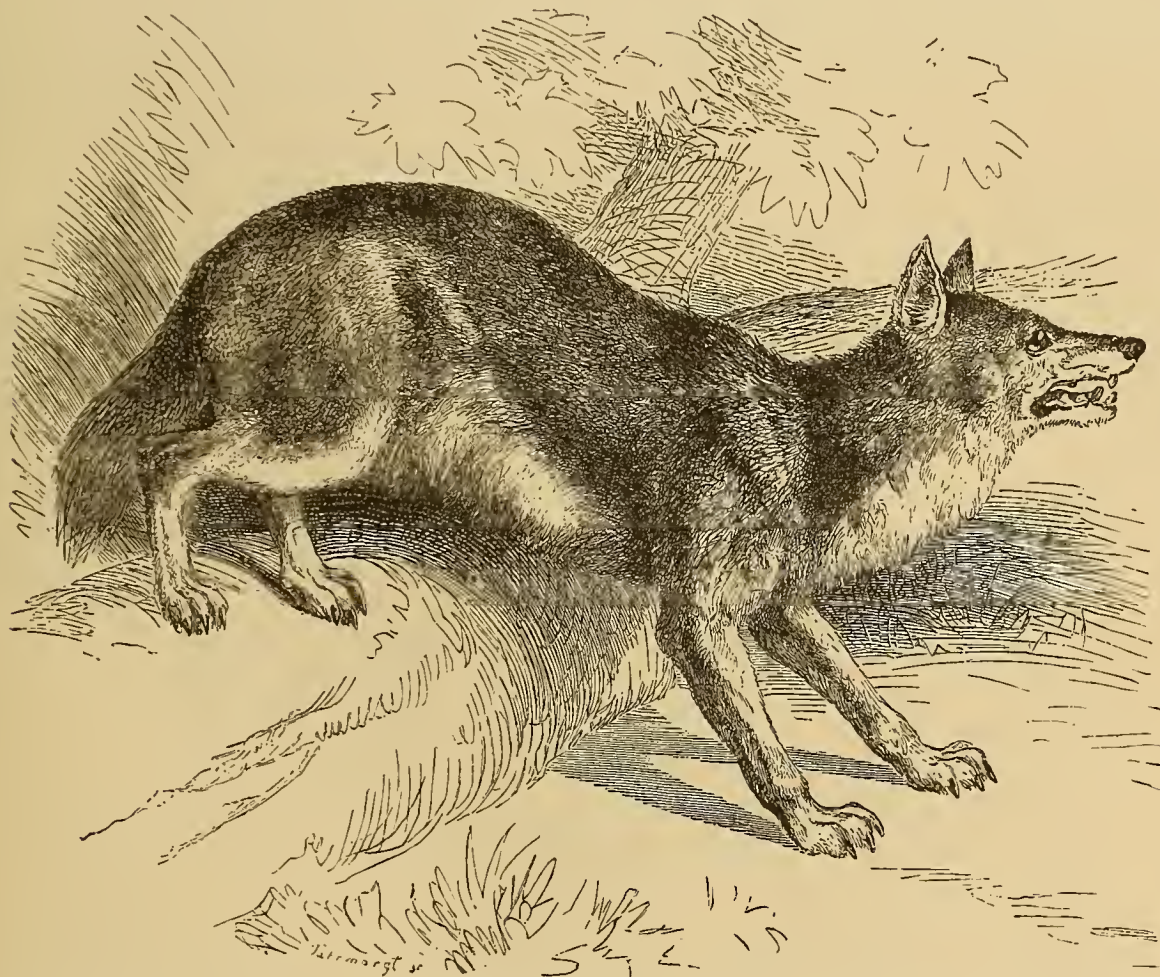
This species leads a solitary life on the Pampas, or flat, grass-covered plains of the La Plata region.

away articles, and as the hunters saw the gleaming teeth close upon their late possessions, they shuddered at the thought of what their fate would be if the horses should not be able to keep up the wild race.

Happily, their starting point was now not far away: and, with the time gained by throwing over the furs and provisions, the race might yet be won. But the howls of the pack were again plainly heard. They had once more taken up the chase, and lash the horses as the driver would, the wolves still gained. Despair was beginning to chill the hearts of the

fleeing hunters, when far ahead, a light was seen, casting a faint glimmer over the snow. The fort! the fort! cried the driver, and with hope renewed, the steaming horses were urged to continue their mad gallop.

On came the wolves, and in the dim light of the dying day, it seemed as if their numbers had doubled since the chase began. As before, bullets seemed of little avail, and the leaders of the pack were almost upon the hunters, when shouts from the fort showed that their plight had been dis-



EUROPEAN WOLF.

Color gray and fawn, mingled with black, under portions white. In size it is similar to the American gray wolf.

covered; help was near, and soon the open gate of the enclosure could be seen.

Clubbing their guns, the hunters dashed them down upon the heads of the snarling brutes that were leaping up at them, and with a last burst of speed, the exhausted horses drew the sleigh clear of the pack and rushed within the welcome gates. With a crash, the protecting timbers closed behind them, and the men turned to see their savage pursuers leaping vainly at the heavy bars.

It was with thankful hearts that they entered their warm, comfortable quarters, and not one of the party could afterward think of the dreadful fate that had been so narrowly escaped, without an involuntary shudder.

In this country, at the present time, it is only in the wildest and most thinly settled regions, that any considerable number of wolves are to be found. Owing to their destructive nature, a bounty, or reward of money is granted by law, in many States, to any person who kills a wolf and brings its scalp to the proper authorities. Wolves are terrible enemies to sheep, and it needs but a few of them to keep the farmers of an entire county in anxiety and suspense.

In some of the Western States great hunts are sometimes planned, in which hundreds of men and dogs take part. They form a circle and gradually draw together, beating a great extent of country as they go, thus driving within a narrowing enclosure, all the wolves that may be hiding in woods and thickets. Many have been killed in this way, but often the surrounded brutes will dash through the line as it closes on them, and thus escape.



GAUNT AND HUNGRY.



SPOTTED HYENA: Southern Africa.

Color yellowish brown, with black spots. Height at shoulder, 3 feet, length of body, 4 feet. The broad head of this animal shows the powerful jaw muscles; these enable it to crush the bones which form a considerable portion of its food.

THE HYENA.

Hyenas, by their very looks, show their low and cowardly nature. As the Vulture is among birds, so is the Hyena among animals, a scavenger and cleaner up of the dead and decaying remains of other creatures. These may have been killed by some of the nobler beasts of prey, by the hunter, or perhaps, may have died a natural death; it makes no difference to the Hyena, all is fish that comes to his net, and so long as a shred of meat or bit of bone remains he will linger at the feast.

Disgusting in appearance and habits as this animal is, it is nevertheless most useful in Asia and Africa, where it is found. Sneaking about the outskirts of the villages, and even through the streets after nightfall, the Hyena devours, with hearty appetite, all the bones and bits of meat that have been thrown out by the careless villagers, and thus clears away carrion

which would otherwise poison the air, and make the place unfit for people to live in.

There are two kinds of Hyenas, the striped and the spotted. The spotted variety is the larger of the two. The bone-cracking abilities of these animals are simply wonderful, and their powers of digestion such, that a Hyena will swallow a large knuckle bone without giving it a crunch; it will crack the thigh-bone of a buffalo to obtain the marrow, and will swallow either end immediately afterward.

Natives of the countries in which the Hyena is found, despise it as the greatest of cowards.

KILLING A HYENA.

An American hunter in the wilds of Africa, who had tracked a Hyena to a cavern in which it had taken refuge, thrust a spear repeatedly into the opening, and finally succeeded in stabbing the animal in the breast and killing it.

Just then, some natives approached and seemed much surprised to find a white man engaged in hunting such ignoble game. They told him to return thanks that he had not dishonored his gun by such a capture, and advised him to throw away the



STRIPED HYENA; Northern Africa and India.

It is somewhat smaller than the spotted variety, but of the same nature and habits.

bloody spear, as it would henceforth surely betray him.

Although not usually dangerous to man, the Spotted Hyena has been known, when very hungry, to steal noiselessly up to the camp-fires of the natives, and steal children who were sleeping by their mothers' side.

It is also said to be very cunning in avoiding traps, and snares of all kinds, examining carefully every small object before touching it. When hunting at night, or quarrelling with its mates over some choice morsel of meat or bone, it utters a strange howl, which sounds fearfully like wild



SCENE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Spotted Hyenas devouring the carcass of an Oryx, with Jackals awaiting their turn at the feast.

laughter, and is sure to make all who hear it, without knowing its cause, tremble with dread.

But the worst that is told of the Hyena is, that it steals into burying grounds at night, and, horrible to relate, digs into the graves so that it can carry away and devour the bodies of the dead. In South Africa the graveyards must be strongly enclosed, or the graves themselves protected by heavy stones, to prevent their being robbed by these prowling beasts.

The awkward appearance and slouching gait of the Hyena, is principally caused by the shortness of its hind legs. The neck and shoulders are a good deal higher than the hind-quarters, which seem as if intended for a much smaller creature.

The color of the Striped Hyena varies according to its age. In the full grown animal the color of the hair is a grayish-brown, over which are drawn a number of dark stripes, extending along the ribs and across the legs.

In the young, these stripes are nearly twice as dark and twice as wide as in the old Hyenas, and



Striped Hyenas Eating Bones; Vultures in the Distance.

they likewise are to be seen on the face and other parts of the body, from which they afterward disappear. The hair is always rough; and along the spine, and especially over the neck and shoulders, it rises in a kind of mane, which gives the beast a very fierce look.

The picture shows a group of Hyenas feeding upon the remains of a dead animal. The jackals and vultures will have a share of the feast, but must keep out of the way of the strong, snapping jaws of the Hyenas, and content themselves with a hasty mouthful, snatched here and there while the larger beasts are not too near.



LION OF BARBARY.

Color deep yellowish brown; the mane is frequently longer and heavier than that of the lions of Southern Africa, and sometimes covers the neck, shoulders, and part of the fore legs, with its long locks. Length of the largest lions, from the nose to tip of tail, $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

THE CAT TRIBE.

THE LION.

The KING OF BEASTS: this is the name which has been given to the great Lion, and those who have seen him in his native wilds, say that he is worthy of the proud title. Beauty and strength are both his, as well as courage. He has moreover, a certain nobility of nature, and an air of dignity which strongly contrasts with the sneaking habits of tigers, leopards, and other animals of the cat tribe.

In the early days of the world's history the Lion was common in Syria,

Persia, and throughout the whole of India and Africa. At the present time, although a few are still to be found in certain parts of India and Persia, it is in Africa only that the Lion remains, a "King of the Forest." Even in Africa he is being driven slowly but surely backward, as man, armed with the deadly rifle, advances.

Among the Dutch settlers of Southern Africa, encounters with the Lion often take place, and the story of a thrilling adventure of this kind was told by one of them; it is as follows:—

STORY OF A LION HUNT.

One evening, far in the interior of Southern Africa, a farmer was sitting in front of his hut, with his young son. He was contentedly smoking his pipe, as he looked with pride upon his sleek herds of cattle which grazed around him.

Suddenly, he noticed far away, some tawny object moving slowly around the end of a wooded hill which extended into a field. By careful watching he discovered that the object was a Lion, and that it was quietly moving toward a valuable black horse that was grazing near.

Starting up, the farmer and his son, a lad of sixteen years, seized their guns, which were as usual standing ready loaded, and ran toward the horse, shouting as they ran to the Hottentots who were idling about the farm.

The black fellows did not seem to be in a hurry to reach the scene of danger, so the farmer and his son got to the horse before any other help arrived, and as the hill was now between them and the Lion, nothing could be seen of him.

The horse was still quietly grazing, entirely unconscious of any danger, and the farmer's son, against the advice of his father, left him feeding and advanced toward the Lion's lair.

His father called several times for him to come back and wait for the Hottentots and the dogs, but getting no answer he walked toward his son, whom he found throwing stones into the thick bushes.

When, within calling distance, he saw him suddenly raise his gun and fire, though apparently without aim, and then turn to run. At almost the same instant the Lion, with a terrific roar, charged out of the thicket; in two bounds he was upon the boy, whom he at once dragged to the ground.

All this happened in a very few seconds, so that before the farmer, who instantly ran to the rescue, could reach the spot, the lad was terribly torn



BLACK-MANED LION (SOUTH AFRICA).

Lions are sometimes seen with the mane almost black; these are frequently of large size and great ferocity. It is not found, however, that they differ in any respect but in color from the tawny yellow animals.

and mangled, and lay dying upon the ground before the eyes of his horror-stricken father, who, although he at once fired a shot at the Lion, saw it bound away into the bushes, where it was soon lost to sight. The boy was at once carried home, but never spoke again, and died during the night.

Revenge was now the first thought of the farmer; bullets were cast, powder horns refilled, and early the next morning he was preparing to leave the hut with his men and dogs, when he was stopped by a little Bushman, whom he had long ago befriended, and who lived on the place.

These little Bush-people live in the deepest forests of Africa. They are seldom more than four feet in height, and seem too small and weak to be feared, but many a traveller's death-knell has been sounded by the twang of their tiny bow, for the points of their slender arrows are poisoned.

What do you want of me? asked the farmer, who was in a hurry to start.

The Bushman, who was armed with his bow and arrows, answered by bringing out from a fold in his breech cloth a small tuft of black hair, like a shaving brush:—it was the Lion's tail tuft.

Eagerly the farmer asked the little man how, and when, this unlooked-for success had been met with, and this is the account the Bushman gave of his adventure:—

When the Lion struck down the farmer's son, the Bushman was perched upon a rock, in full view of the scene. He saw the Lion go back into the bushes, and marked the spot in which it lay. Then going back to the farm, he found an old and worn-out ox, and, getting his bow and poisoned arrows, drove the beast close to the Lion's lair, tied it to a tree, and immediately hid himself in the long grass.

It was now night, but Bushmen, owing to their habits of prowling about in the darkness, can see at night nearly as well as by day.

Soon sounds of cracking twigs, under a stealthy tread, showed that the scent of the ox had reached the Lion; in another instant its huge yellow body dashed through the air, as it made its spring upon the unfortunate bullock, which was soon in its death struggle.

At this moment, the little Bushman fitted one of his poisoned arrows to the bow-string, then another; and two of the tiny shafts went true to their mark, deeply pricking the Lion's flank.

The ox was soon killed, and the Lion dragged the carcass away among the bushes, while the Bushman found shelter under some overhanging rocks near by.



AFRICAN LION AND LIONESS.

As soon as day began to dawn, the Bushman carefully looked about him, and with noiseless steps crept toward the Lion's lair. All was silent: he advanced to the spot, pulled aside the long bushes, and there, stiff and lifeless, lay the savage beast which but yesterday had alarmed the country-side. The poisoned arrows had done their work: the farmer could now put away his guns and tie up his dogs, for the Bushman, with his puny native weapon, had killed the monster. After this great service the little man was allowed to remain, a favored idler about the farm, and the cunning and bravery he had shown was not soon forgotten.

The force of the blow of a Lion's paw, when springing upon its prey, is terrific, and many a man has been killed outright by it, as though struck by a bar of iron. An African traveller tells the following:—

ADVENTURE WITH A LION.

While on the frontier of Abyssinia, a native came into camp one morning with the news that a large Lion was lying asleep close by.

One of our party, taking a double-barrelled rifle, and giving another to his man, immediately followed the native.

The Lion was soon discovered beneath a leafless bush; it appeared to be gorged with flesh, and half asleep in the hot sun, took very little notice of the two men. The hunter advanced boldly within twenty yards. The Lion looked at him with sleepy astonishment; he took aim and fired. He missed! The Lion at once crouched for a spring.

The hunter aimed between the eyes and again fired. He missed again! The Lion crouched no longer; but giving an awful roar he bounded forward, and, with a terrific blow upon the head, felled the unfortunate hunter to the ground, and seized him by the neck.

Almost at the same moment, the faithful native rushed forward to help his master, and, afraid to fire lest he should hit him by mistake during the confusion of the struggle, he actually pushed the muzzle of his rifle into the Lion's ear and pulled the trigger. The Lion fell dead upon the lifeless body of the hunter.

And now, to show the awful force of the blow dealt by the Lion's paw in its first rush, we must follow the body as it is carried back to camp, and note the result of the examination made by a skilled surgeon, who was one of the party.

He found the skull of the unfortunate man so completely shattered that

it looked like a crushed egg-shell, and not only this, but a close inspection showed that the claws of the Lion had in several places pierced the bone, as if driven like a nail by blows of a hammer.

The same traveller tells of another adventure with a Lion, which happened while he was upon an expedition up the White Nile:—



LIONESSE.

The Lioness does not grow as large as the Lion; seldom measuring more than 9 feet in length, from nose to tip of tail. She is of the same tawny color but without any mane.

THE LION'S DEADLY BLOW.

The dry season was at its height; all the high grass and reeds along the river's banks had been burnt by the natives, and the surface of the earth was black and bare.

The boat was going easily down stream, and as we floated along, a Lion was seen standing not far from the edge of the water.

The vessel was at once stopped, and a trustworthy native hunter of the

party offered to land and kill the Lion. The man was sure of his aim; so accordingly he was put ashore, armed only with a single barrelled rifle.

From the boat the whole affair was easily seen. They saw the native advance boldly toward the Lion, which, although standing when first observed, now immediately crouched. The native advanced until only a few yards distant: he then halted and fired.

With a loud roar the Lion flew to the attack, and, with its paw, struck the hunter fairly upon the shoulder.

The effect was awful; the man was dashed violently upon the ground, and the Lion fell across his body; after a few gasps it rolled over and died. The hunter never moved.

The boat was now run up to the bank, and a number of men at once ran to the prostrate form of their companion. He and the Lion were both found to be quite dead. The bullet had struck the beast in front, and had passed through the heart.

But the man! what a terrible sight met the eyes of his friends. The paw of the Lion had descended upon his shoulder with such fearful force that not only the arm, but all the flesh on the left side of the body, was stripped downward and lay upon the ground, attached loosely to the hip by a strip of skin. The man had been killed on the spot by the shock of the dreadful blow.

The Lion is truly a terrible beast when roused to anger, and well should the hunter look to his aim, so that his bullet may fly straight to the brain, if he hopes to escape from the encounter with his life.

THE TIGER.

In beauty of coloring, and elegance of form, the Tiger is truly a royal beast; while in strength, activity, and dangerous powers of attack, it is hardly inferior to the Lion himself.

When springing upon its prey, the Tiger does not, however, strike the crushing blow with the paw peculiar to the Lion, but merely seizes with its claws, and depends upon a grip upon the neck with its strong jaws to destroy life in its victim.

Tigers live in Asia. The largest kind, called the Royal Bengal Tiger, is found in India.

This splendid beast sometimes grows to a length of ten feet, from nose to tip of tail. The whole body is marked with dark stripes, which contrast beautifully with the bright, tawny yellow of the rest of its coat.

The Tiger is shaped very much like a great cat, and, large and ferocious though the animal is, it is impossible to watch its stealthy, graceful movements without being reminded of our tame pussy at home.



ROYAL TIGER: India.

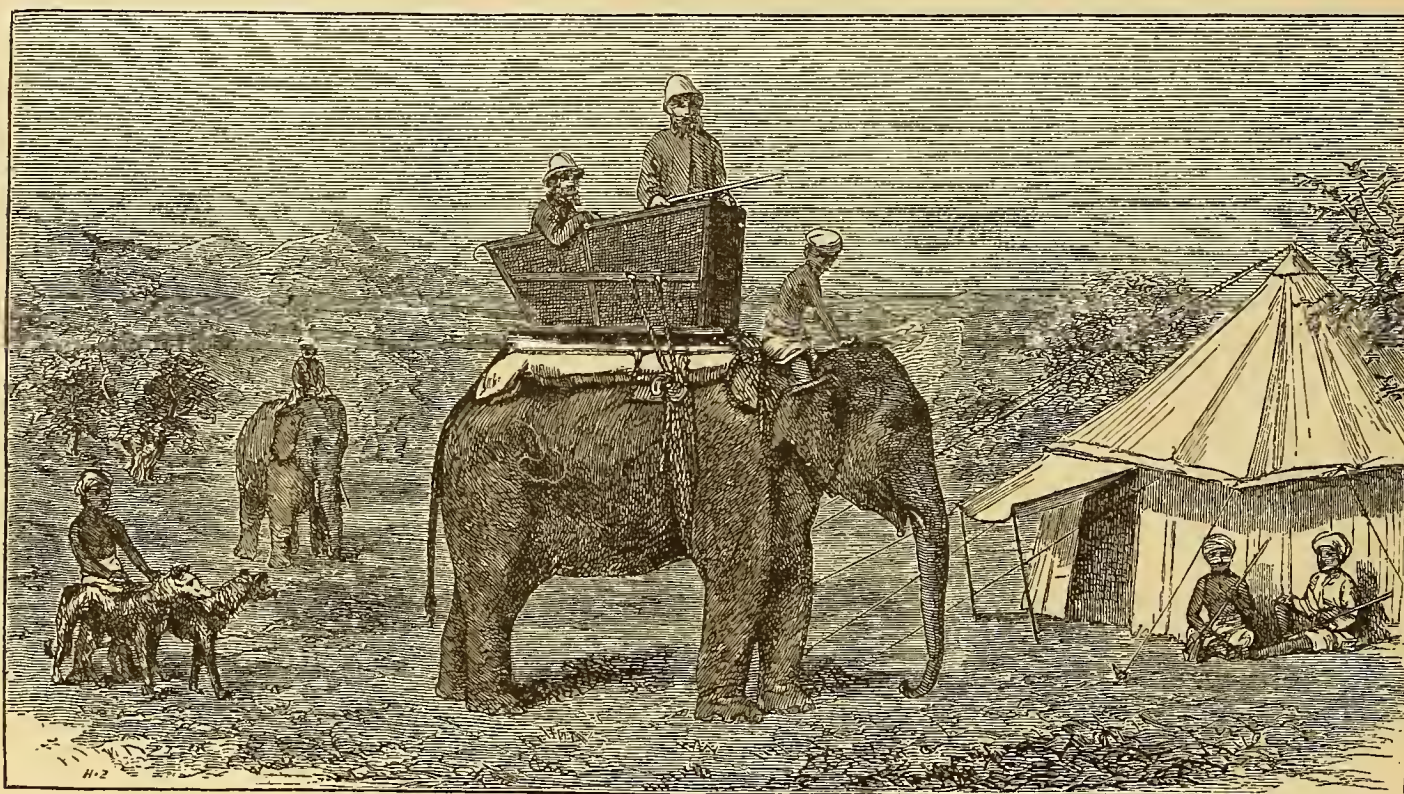
Color bright yellow with black stripes, sides of head and lower parts of the body white; length (including tail) 10 feet. Excepting the Lion, the Tiger is the largest and strongest of the cat tribe.

There is, indeed, a strong family likeness between all the cat tribe, and the different members of it have many habits in common. The house cat, little and weak though she seems, compared to the Tiger, constantly reminds us of her great relation, and, when springing upon a mouse or bird, shows by her fierceness that beneath the soft coat, and gentle, purring ways, there is yet a little of the Tiger's savage nature.

The Leopard, the Lynx, and the Wild-Cat, also belong to this same

family, and are all true cats, though some live in trees, while others prefer the bush or reed-covered ground.

Tiger hunting in India is one of the grandest and most exciting of sports: think of twenty or more huge elephants, each with a hunter upon its back, starting out to rouse the fierce Tiger from its lair. The dangerous beast, when tracked to its hiding place, and driven out of the long grass in which it loves to rest during the day, if not killed at once by a well directed shot, may jump upon the nearest elephant, and tear it with teeth



TIGER HUNTERS MOUNTED UPON AN ELEPHANT.

and claws. A desperate struggle between the two animals then commences, and it must be a cool-headed man who can take steady aim under such exciting circumstances. A hunter tells of an adventure of this kind:—

A TIGER HUNT.

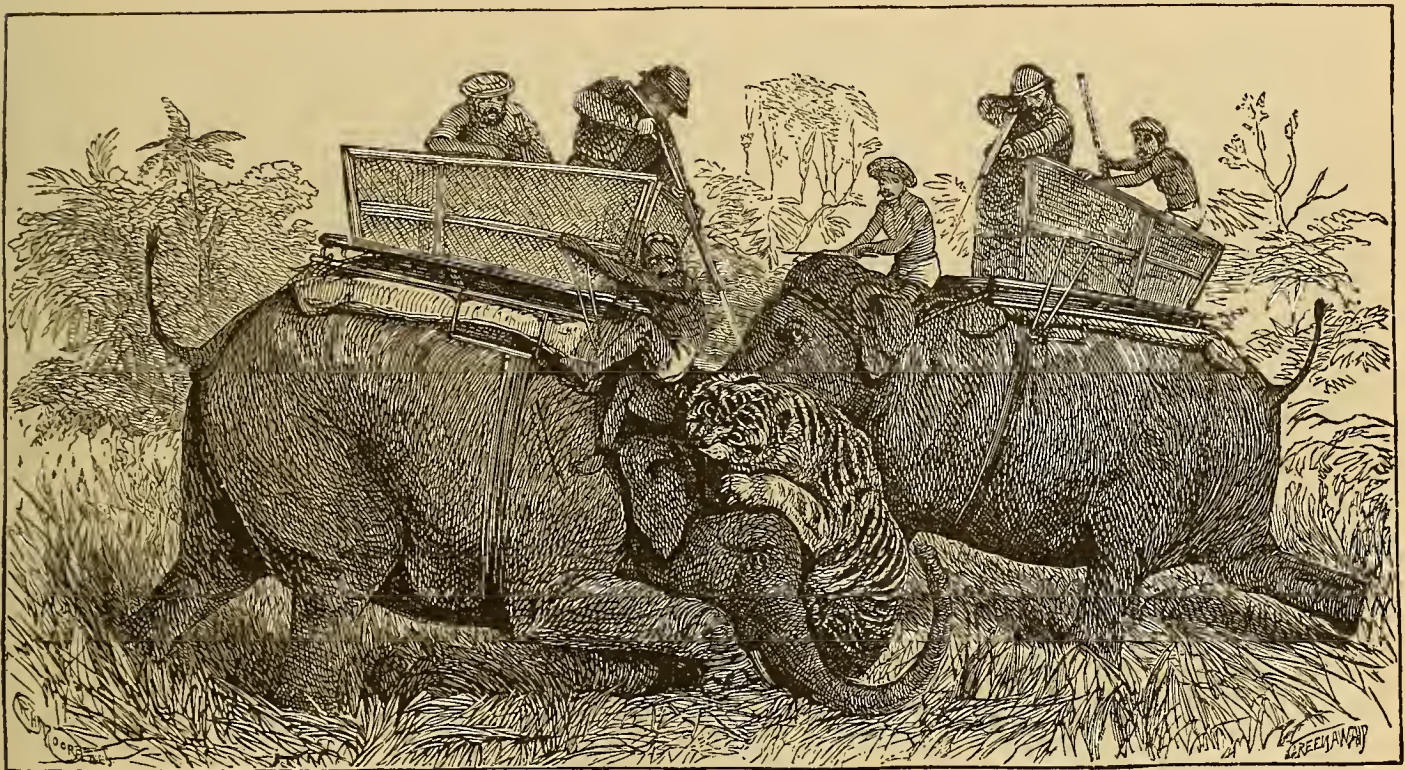
We had been moving our line of elephants forward very slowly through the jungle, keeping a bright lookout on every side, when one of the mahouts, or drivers, who sits upon the neck of the elephant, and guides his movements with a sharp iron hook, raised his arm as a signal and halted his elephant. The whole line of twenty-one elephants immediately stopped.

I rode toward the spot; the line opened, and the mahout explained that

he plainly saw the bushes move, not more than three or four paces in front. He also declared that just for an instant he had seen something yellow, and the tiger was, in his opinion, even then crouching exactly before us.

Telling him to fall back, and taking his place on my most trustworthy elephant, I went forward a few steps. My mahout now advised me to fire a shot into the place where the tiger was supposed to be, for he said, this would either kill it or drive it forward.

Accordingly, I aimed carefully in the direction pointed out by the



THE TIGER SPRINGS UPON THE ELEPHANT.

man, and fired,—the effect was remarkable; at the very instant the sound of the shot was heard, and with a terrible roar, the tiger sprang from its lair.

My elephant was badly frightened, and twisted around so suddenly to the left that, had I been unprepared, I should have fallen heavily against the edge of the howdah, or box, which is strapped firmly on the elephant's back for the hunter to ride in. As it was, my left hand grasped the rail, while, with my right, I took from its rack a double barrellled shot gun, which I always carried, loaded with heavy shot, for work at close quarters.

Another spring, and the tiger was upon the elephant, with its great claws buried in the poor animal's head, only a few inches from the

leg of the mahout, who sat astride of the elephant's neck. Quickly aiming at the tiger's head, I pulled the trigger; almost at the same moment one of my friends, whose mahout had bravely driven him close to the clinging tiger, planted a bullet in its shoulder.

A bag of sand could not have fallen more suddenly or heavily than our fierce assailant. My whole charge of heavy shot had gone directly into its brain and had shattered the skull (as examination afterwards proved) into a hundred pieces. This tiger was a very large one and when carefully



TIGER AND TIGRESS.

measured proved to be exactly ten feet and one inch in length, from the nose to the tip of its tail.

A RUN-AWAY ELEPHANT.

The story of a hunt which was very different from the one just described, is told by the hunter as follows:—

We had been beating through the withered grass, which stood nearly ten feet high in the lowlands near the river, when my native servant, who

was behind me in the howdah, exclaimed, "Tiger, master, Tiger!" and pointed towards the high grass a few yards ahead of the line of elephants.

I could see nothing; neither could my man, but he explained that, just for an instant only, he had caught sight of a striped, furry tail which he was sure belonged either to a tiger or a large leopard. I could always depend upon the man, so I stopped the line at once, intending to push ahead with my elephant, until I should find some clear place among the high grass, and there wait for the line of elephants to drive the tiger toward me.



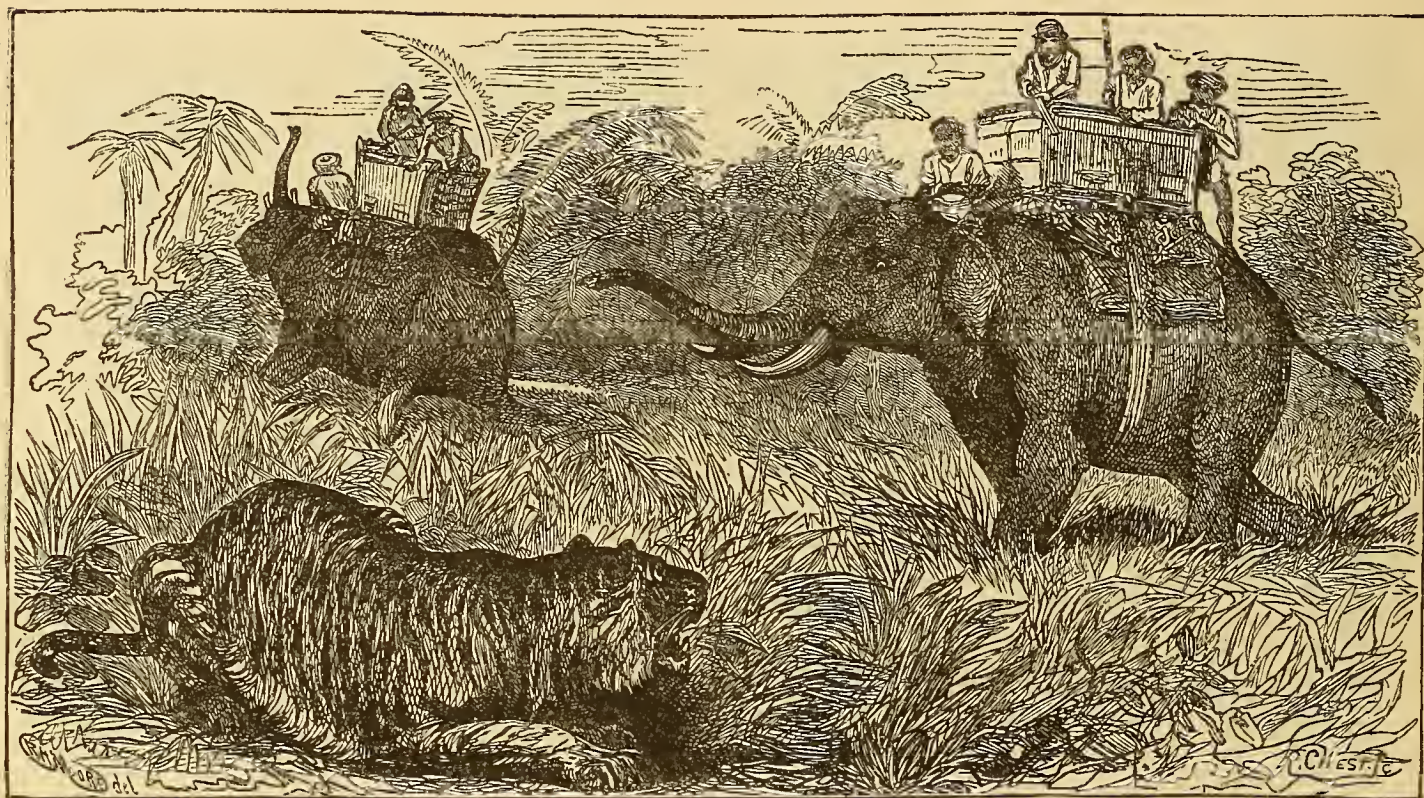
CREEPING AWAY.

At about a quarter of a mile distant, there was a spot where the grass had been fired when half green, and although the tops were burnt, the stems were only scorched, and were of that mingled color, black and yellow, which so closely matches the striped hide of a tiger.

The line of elephants advanced. I was riding a large tusker named Sinbad, which became very uneasy as a number of wild pigs rushed out of the long grass, one lot taking to water and swimming across the river. Presently a slow movement disturbed the half-burnt herbage, and I could make out a form creeping silently forward, about forty yards from my position.

It stopped, no doubt having perceived the elephant. It moved again, then once more stood motionless. I now made out that it was a tiger; but although I could distinguish the yellow and black stripes, I could not see the head or tail, therefore I could only guess upon its actual position. It seemed most probable, however, that it would be facing me, but crouching low.

The elephants were now about 150 yards distant, approaching in a half circle. I determined to take the shot, as I felt sure that my heavy rifle



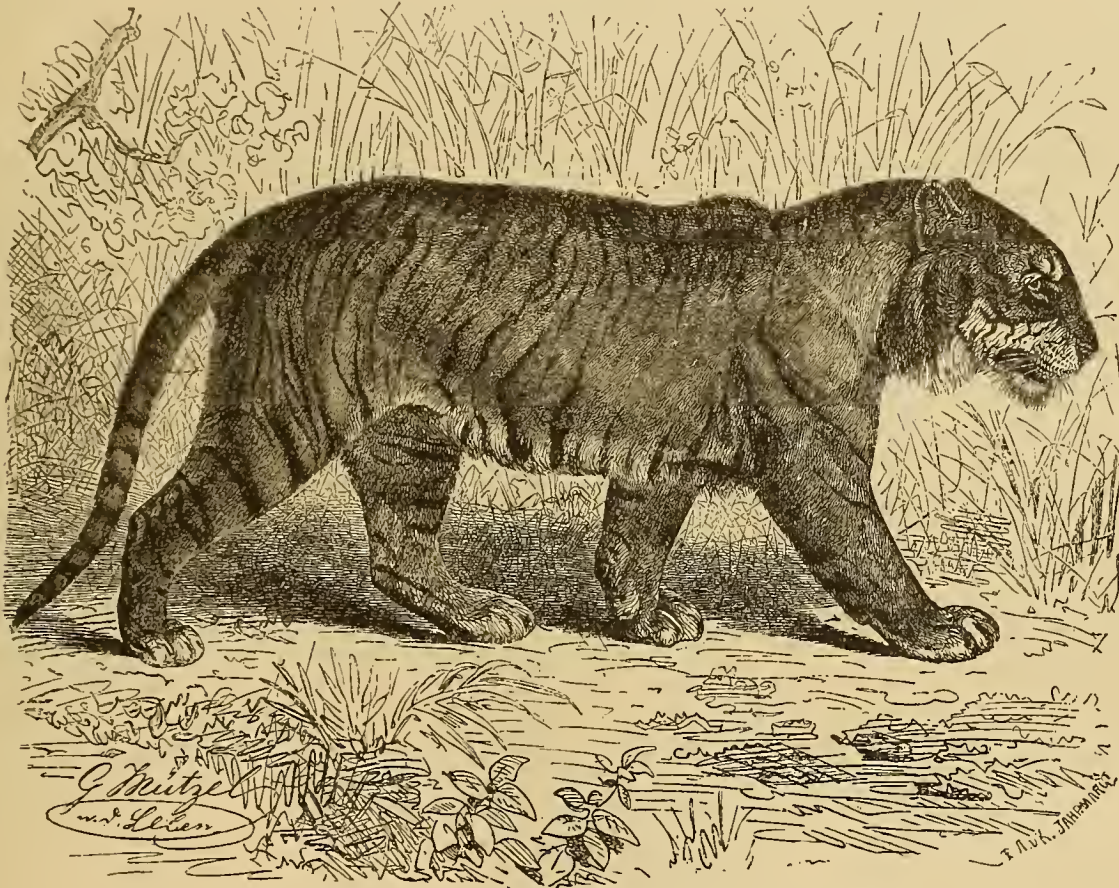
THE TIGER COMES OUT OF ITS HIDING PLACE.

would cripple the beast, and that we should find it easily, when wounded; otherwise, it might disappear and give us several hours' work.

Taking a very steady aim, low down in the indistinct mass, I fired. The effect was tremendous: a succession of wild roars were accompanied by a furious struggle in the high grass, and I could occasionally see the tiger, rolling over and over in desperate contortions, while a cloud of black dust, from the charred grass, rose above the scene. This continued for about twelve or fifteen seconds, during which my elephant whisked round several times, and had been severely punished by the mahout's iron hook, when suddenly from the cloud of dust, a tiger came at great speed, making a most determined charge at the nervous Sinbad.

Away went my elephant, as hard as he could go, tearing along through the grass like a locomotive engine off the track, and no power could stop him until we had run at least a quarter of a mile. During this run, with the tiger close behind, I expected to see it spring upon us; however, by the time we stopped the elephant, it had turned aside into the high grass.

I now pushed ahead into the middle of the grass, and called to the line to advance, in a half circle, as I was sure the tiger was somewhere between me and the approaching elephants. They came on tolerably well,



THE TIGER TURNS ASIDE INTO THE GRASS.

although a few were rather scared. At length they halted about seventy yards from me, and as I knew that the tiger was not far off, I ordered the left of the line to close in, so as to come around me; by which movement the tiger would be driven within a close shot.

Before the line had time to advance, there was a sudden roar: a tiger sprang from the grass, and seizing an elephant by the trunk, pulled it down upon its knees so suddenly that the mahout was thrown to the ground. As quick as lightning the tiger let go its hold upon the elephant and seized the unfortunate man.

I never saw such a hopeless panic as then followed among the elephants. The whole line broke up in confusion: while the beast that had been first attacked tore riderless over the plain, the others fled in every direction, and, during all this time, a continual succession of horrible

roars and angry growls, told that the tiger was tearing the helpless man in pieces.

A cloud of dust marked the spot, within seventy paces of my position. It was like a dreadful nightmare; my elephant seemed turned to stone.

In vain I seized the mahout by the back of the neck as a signal to move forward; he dug his pointed hook frantically into Sinbad's head, but the animal was as motionless as a block of granite.

This lasted quite fifteen seconds; it appeared as many minutes. Suddenly my servant shouted, "Look out, master, another tiger come; two tigers, master, not one!" I looked in the direction he pointed, and at once saw a tiger crouching, as though preparing for a charge.

It was about forty yards distant: the animal was upon my right, and the elephant had not observed it.



ELEPHANT'S CHARGE UPON A WOUNDED TIGER.

I fired at the half open mouth of the tiger, and, to my great relief, it rolled over upon its side in dying struggles. At this moment, one of the beaters' elephants, seeing the dying tiger, regained its courage, and making a desperate charge, drove its long tusks between the shoulders of its fierce enemy, crushing out the last spark of life from its bleeding, prostrate body.

My elephant now answered to the driver's hook, and, leaving the dead tiger where it lay, advanced steadily toward the spot where we had seen the cloud of dust which showed where the attack upon the mahout took place. Fully expecting to see the tiger upon the man's body, I stood ready in the howdah prepared for a careful shot. We arrived at the place, which was somewhat cleared of grass by the recent struggle, but instead of finding the man, we found only his waist-cloth, and about fifteen yards from this bloody evidence of the encounter, we saw the unfortunate



LEOPARD; Asia and Africa.

Color yellow with black rosette-shaped spots, lower portions white; length including tail 7 to 8 feet.

mahout, lying apparently lifeless in the grass. No tiger was in sight, but the one I had just killed.

We immediately carried the unconscious man to the river and bathed him in cool water. He had been seized by the shoulder, and was terribly torn and clawed about the head and neck, but fortunately there were no deep wounds reaching to the lungs. We bandaged him up by tearing a turban into long strips, and, having made a good surgical job of it, I had him laid upon a pad elephant and carried straight to camp.

We then loaded an elephant with the dead tiger, which proved to be

the only one, and the very same animal which I had started by my first shot. The bullet had struck its thigh bone, breaking it all to pieces, which accounted for Sinbad's escape from being boarded in the rear, as the tiger could not spring to so great a height upon only three legs. The furious beast had then attacked the second elephant, which, falling upon his knees, had thrown the unready driver. The tiger having bitten and clawed the man, was advancing to attack me, when I settled him with the bullet in the jaws.



RIMAU-DAHAN, OR CLOUDED TIGER CAT; Sumatra.

An exceedingly graceful and beautiful variety; color gray with black stripes; length including tail about 5 feet. It is a somewhat rare animal, and but few specimens have ever been captured alive.

On arriving at the camp the wounded man was well cared for, and afterward recovered entirely from his wounds.

ATTACKED BY AN ANGRY LEOPARD.

The elephant Sinbad had behaved so badly that I made up my mind to give him but one more chance, and then to change him for another elephant if he should repeat his cowardly behavior.

A few days afterward, the natives reported a tiger to be in a thicket near by. I immediately sent the elephants into the jungle, and took up a position upon Sinbad in a narrow opening to the thicket; the other elephants being sent in to start the enemy from his place of concealment.

As they approached in close order, a rustling in the bush announced the presence of some animal.

Suddenly a large leopard bounded across the open space, its beautiful yellow and black spotted hide glistening in the sunlight. I at once fired without taking very careful aim, and struck it through the middle of the body. It rolled over to the shot, but immediately disappeared in the thick jungle a few paces distant.



MARbled CAT; Malacca.

Color tawny gray with black marking; length including tail $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

I called the line of elephants, and we lost no time in beating the neighboring bush in the closest order, as I fully expected the leopard would be crouching beneath the tangled mass of leaves.

In a short time the elephants sounded their trumpet note of alarm, which always indicates the near presence of a foe. Suddenly, without the least warning, the leopard left its hiding place and dashed straight at Sinbad, seizing him by the shoulder-joint, and hanging on like a bull-dog with teeth and claws. Away went Sinbad through the tangled branches, like an express train. It was impossible to fire, as the leopard was hidden beneath the flap of the howdah. After we had travelled in this way for fully one hundred yards, the thick bushes through which we rushed tore

the leopard from its hold, and in another instant it had disappeared in the jungle again.

I now changed my elephant, and rode a steady female named Sonda, and the line having re-formed, we advanced slowly through the bush. We had not gone a quarter of a mile before the elephants scented the leopard, and knowing the cunning habits of this animal, I formed a complete circle around the place, and closed in until we at length spied



OCELOT; South and Central America.

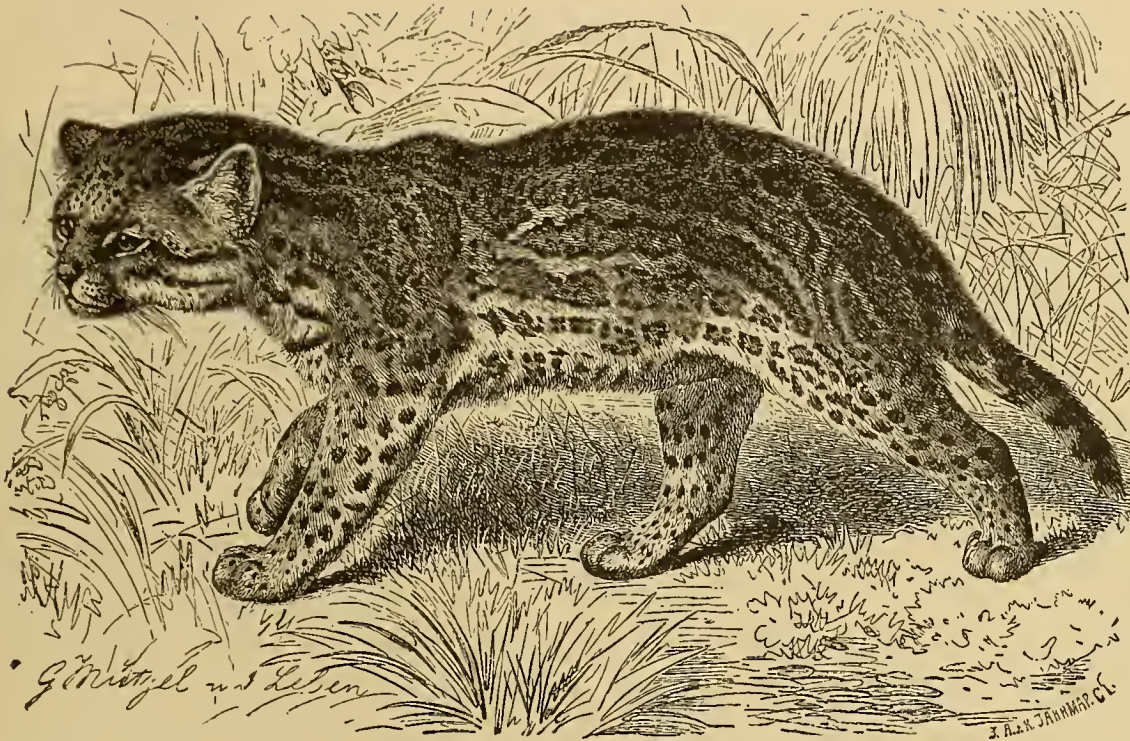
One of the most beautiful of the tiger cats; color gray marked with darker spots and stripes; length including tail 4 feet.

the spotted hide beneath a bush. A charge of buckshot killed it without a struggle.

The Leopard, or Panther, as it is also called, exists in great variety, and is known by different names in the many different countries in which it is found. It may be called a Panther, or Ocelot, or Wild-Cat, or Jaguar, but it still remains a Leopard, though differing very much in size, color, and, to some extent, in habits.

The skins of Leopards, from different parts of the world, show a striking difference in size and in the color of the fur. The largest Leopard,

however, does not exceed eight feet in length, from nose to tip of tail. It is a very powerful animal, and while no Lion or Tiger can climb a tree, all of the many varieties of the Leopard tribe will spring up the trunks of even smooth-barked trees, with the agility of a monkey.



OCELOT ON THE WATCH.

THE CATTLE SLAYER.

Although the Tiger as a "man-eater" is terribly dangerous, and very often will carry off and devour a score of natives before it is killed, there are tigers which would never attack a man, although they live in the neighborhood of villages, and have every opportunity for seizing women and children as they pass unsuspectingly by.

There was a well known animal of this kind at a place called Bhundra, in India, which was supposed during its lifetime to have killed 500 of the natives' cattle. This was a remarkably large tiger, but so harmless to man that it was regarded merely in the light of a cattle-lifter, and neither woman nor child dreaded its appearance.

The natives assured me, says the traveller who tells this story, that it had been hunted time and again, for fourteen years, by officers, travelling sportsmen, and by natives, but as the tiger bore a charmed life it was quite impossible to destroy it. It is a common belief among the natives

that a particularly dangerous or destructive tiger is possessed of an evil spirit, and the people spoke of this being such a one, as a matter of course.

They said that the tiger was frequently met by the natives, and that it always passed them with perfect indifference, but that it carried away a cow or bullock in the most regular manner every fourth day. Everybody who had gone after it had obtained a shot: but, they said, bullets are of no use against a devil, therefore it was always missed.



VIVERRINE CAT; India.

Length of body, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color, yellowish-gray with black spots.

I was thirty miles distant when I heard of this tiger, and I immediately directed our course toward Bhundra.

We arrived in May, during the hottest season. After the usual greeting, I inquired of the people concerning the celebrated tiger: "How long was it since it had been heard of?" The Thakur, or head man of the village, calmly informed us that three days had passed since it had killed the last cow; it would therefore kill another to-morrow. There was no excitement visible, but the natives spoke of the tiger as coolly and unconcernedly as though it had been the post-man.

My Shikari, or native hunter, was present, and I ordered him to tie up

a good large buffalo, in fine condition, as the tiger was, in the habit of selecting the best cattle for its meal.

The Thakur knew the exact position to tie the buffalo, to serve as a bait, and he assured me that the tiger would certainly kill it, and that I should get a shot, but that the bullet would either fall from the hide, or in some way miss the object.

At daybreak the next morning my eager Shikari arrived with news that



SERVAL.

This species of Wild-Cat is found throughout the African continent, from Algiers to the Cape of Good Hope. It measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet including tail, which is not more than 12 inches; color tawny yellow with black spots; under parts whitish.

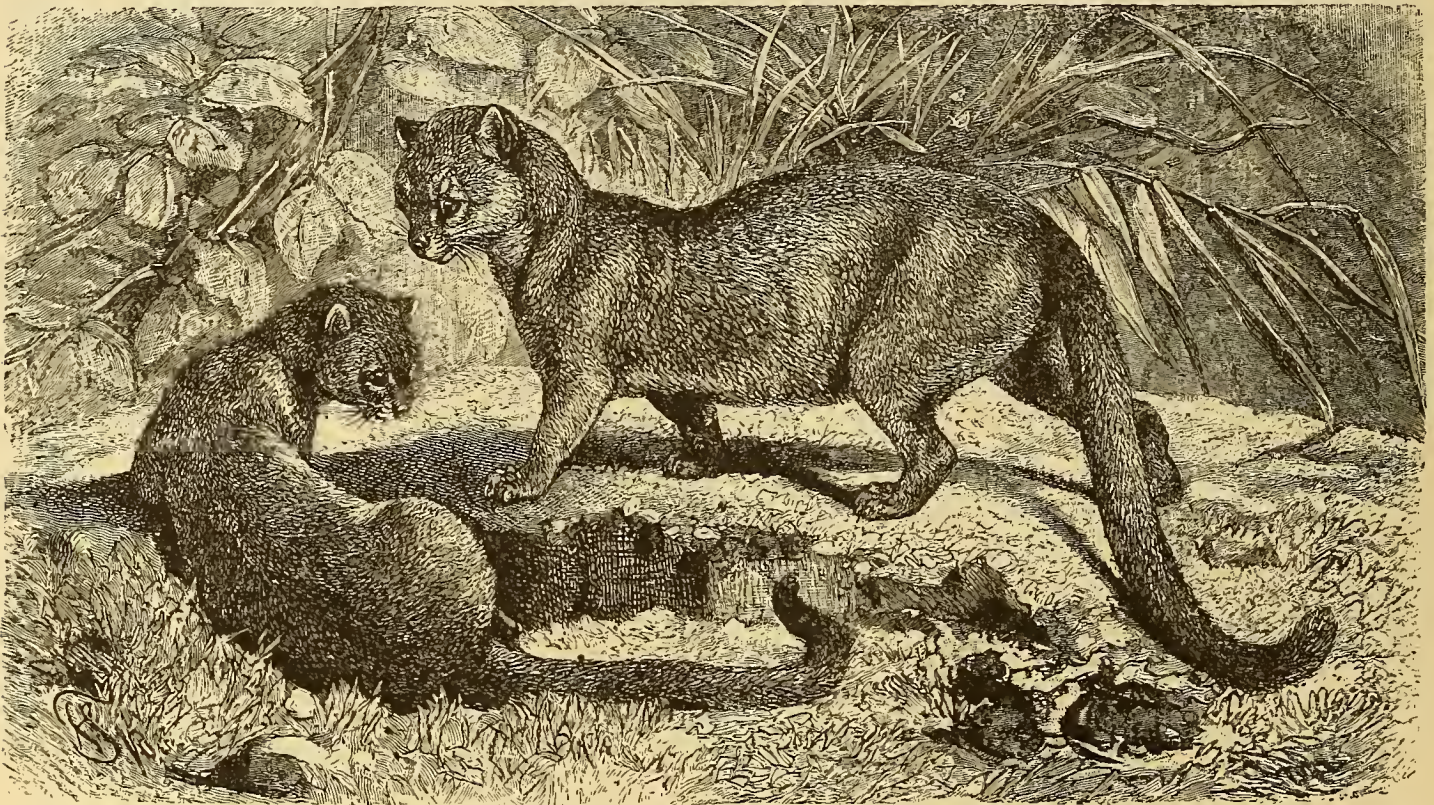
the buffalo was killed, and that they had seen the tiger devouring its hind-quarters. Giving my Shikari a double barrelled gun, and sending out a large force of natives to act as beaters, I entered the jungle.

It was arranged that I should climb into the branches of a large tree, which was directly in the path usually taken by the tiger when roused by the beaters.

Accordingly I climbed up into my lofty perch, squatting there in a most uncomfortable position. At least an hour passed before I even heard the

beaters. At length, amidst the cooing of countless doves which perched upon the branches around me, I detected the distant thud, thud of a tom-tom, or native drum, and the confused sound of many voices: then the sound of two shots, fired in rapid succession, fell upon my ear.

I knew this must be my Shikari, and I felt sure he had missed, as the shots followed each other too quickly for accuracy. After waiting about ten minutes, without a sight of any animal, I descended from my perch and went toward the sound of voices. Soon coming upon a crowd of beaters, I heard that my Shikari had fired at the tiger, when only about



EYRA (Solid-Colored Tiger-Cat); South and Central America and Mexico.

Color chestnut brown. It is about the size of a domestic cat, but its legs are much shorter.

twelve yards distant. Both bullets had missed, owing, as he said, to the power of the evil spirit which every native seemed to feel sure had found lodgement within the dangerous beast. This was the usual end of a hunt for this celebrated tiger, so there was nothing left for us but to return to camp.

In the evening I laid plans for the next day's hunt, and decided to take up my position in the same tree, but to make myself more comfortable by padding the branches with the quilted pad of a riding elephant, as I might have a long wait.

When the morning came we started with a large force of beaters, and upon arriving at the tree I arranged the quilted pad, and took my seat,

having carefully screened myself by intertwining a few green boughs around my hiding place.

I was very comfortable upon the soft pad, and patiently sat waiting for the natives to begin their beat of the jungle.

The tree in which I was perched, was so placed that I had a clear view of the path along which it was expected the tiger would come.

Some time passed, but it was difficult to decide whether the beat had commenced, owing to the ceaseless cooing of the doves which fluttered



YAGUARONDI (Solid-Colored Tiger-Cat); South America and Mexico.

Color, generally a brownish gray. It has a remarkably long body with short legs; length of body $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; length of tail 2 feet.

about in the branches of my tree. Presently a peacock flew into the tree upon my right, and almost immediately two more ran over the dead leaves which covered the ground beneath me, and made an exciting rustle in that quiet nook. I now felt certain the beaters were advancing, as these pea fowl had evidently been disturbed. I therefore kept a sharp lookout, with rifle at full cock, as I felt sure that should the tiger show himself he would be far in advance of the approaching drive.

My ears fairly sang with the strain of expectation, when suddenly I heard the faint but unmistakable beat of the native tom-tom.

Hardly had the momentary noise of the drum died away, when a dull but heavy tread upon the brittle leaves which strewed the ground thrilled me with expectation. This was repeated in such a slow but regular manner that I felt sure the sound arose from the stealthy step of a tiger. I looked along the little pathway, but could see nothing. The footsteps ceased for at least a minute, when once more the tread upon the dead leaves decided me that the animal was not far away.



PAMPAS CAT, OR JUNGLE CAT; South America.

Color gray with brown stripes; length of body 2 feet; tail 1 foot.

At this moment, I raised my eyes from the path along which the beast was expected to make a retreat, and saw, through the intervening mass of leafless bushes upon the opposite slope, a dim outline of an enormous tiger, so indistinct that the figure resembled the fading appearance of a dissolving view. Slowly and stealthily the shadowy form advanced along the face of the slope, exactly crossing my line of sight.

It was the beast "possessed of an evil spirit" that had escaped for so many years, and I could not help thinking that his end was near, though

I was afraid to risk a shot in the present position, where the bullet would have to cut through a hundred twigs before it reached the mark, and thus would probably be turned aside.

The tiger was now about forty yards distant, and, although the bushes were all leafless, there was one exception, which lay in the direct path the tiger was taking, a little upon my right: this was a very thick and large green bush. Just ahead of this bush was a clear open space, and I resolved to wait until the tiger passed the bush and crossed the clear



AMERICAN WILD-CAT AND YOUNG.

Color yellowish gray, with dark stripe along the back and numerous darkish stripes upon the body and legs; length 3 feet, from nose to tip of tail.

opening before shooting. Therefore, resting my left elbow upon my knee, I aimed my rifle at the shoulder of the unconscious tiger and followed it carefully, resolving that at last the evil spirit, which was said to have so long possessed it, should be driven out.

The shouts of the beaters were now distinctly heard, and the loud tom-tom sounded cheerfully as the line approached. Several times the tiger stopped and turned its head to listen; then it disappeared from view behind the thick leaves of the bush.

I lowered my rifle to rest my arm for a moment. So long a time

elapsed that I was afraid the tiger had turned straight up the hill, behind the bush, in a direct line with it, and thus would be lost.

I had almost come to this sad conclusion, when a magnificent head projected from the dark green bush into the bright light of the open space.

For quite fifteen seconds the animal thus stood, with only the head



EUROPEAN WILD-CAT AND YOUNG.

exposed to view, turned half way round to listen. I felt quite sure that I could have put a bullet through its brain; but I waited. Presently it emerged, a splendid form, and walked slowly across the open space.

My rifle had followed its every movement, and at this moment I touched the trigger. The tiger reared to its full height upon its hind legs, and with a roar that could have been heard at a couple of miles' distance, it seized a small tree within its jaws, and then fell backward; it

gave one roll down the slope and lay motionless. The evil spirit was cast out.

I never saw such rejoicing as was occasioned by the death of this notorious tiger. The news ran like fire through the neighboring villages, while we were placing the carcass of the dead animal upon our pack elephant. By the time we had done this a large crowd had collected, which followed the elephant, bearing the body of the tiger which had thinned out their herds during so many years, upon the march toward our camp.

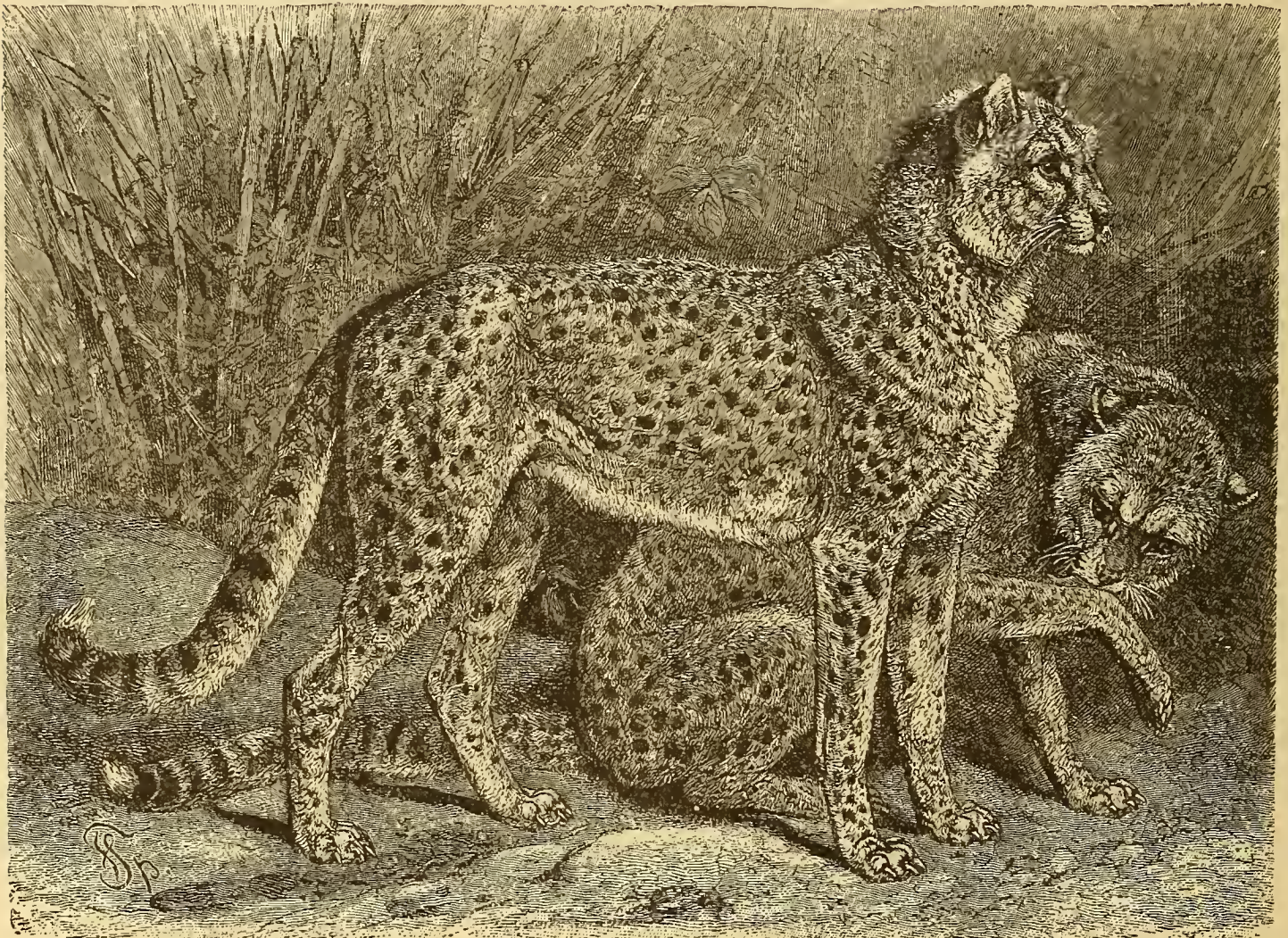


EGYPTIAN CAT.

Color gray and white with black marking; length of body $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail 1 foot. Pictures of this cat are frequently found upon the walls of ancient Egyptian tombs, it having been considered a sacred animal. Some think that the domestic cat is descended from this species.

At least three hundred women and children assembled to satisfy themselves that their enemy was really dead. As this tiger had lived in luxury upon the cattle of the villagers, it was immensely fat, and weighed about 500 pounds. I found my bullet had entered exactly at the right shoulder joint, which it had smashed all to pieces, carrying splinters of bone through the lungs; then passing through the ribs upon the opposite side, it had smashed the left shoulder, and was found beneath the skin expanded like a mushroom.

While the Lion, the Tiger, and the Leopard are the largest and most ferocious of the cat tribe, there are a great many smaller animals of the same family found in almost all parts of the world. These vary through every shade of feline coloring, from spots to stripes, or to a tawny brown, similar to the coat of a lion, but notwithstanding the difference in the markings of the coats of these wild, forest-loving animals, their nature remains the same.



THE CHEETAH, OR HUNTING LEOPARD. India and Africa.

Length of body $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color reddish-brown with round black spots. The Cheetah is one of the fleetest animals in the world. It differs from all the other animals of its kind, as it can be tamed and is used in hunting antelope and deer. These it is able to run down, and kill, in a fair chase.

They are all cunning, ferocious, and destructive, and while they will generally avoid man, yet if wounded, or unable to escape, they will turn and fight with the utmost fury. Appearing to care nothing for the size or numbers of the enemy, they will fly to the attack, biting and tearing all within reach, until the death blow is given them.

It is said that in India, where the cat tribe especially abounds, far greater

numbers of cattle and goats are killed by leopards than by the dreaded tiger. The varieties also are so numerous that, while some of these destructive pests can be classed among the largest leopards, others are no bigger than the common, domestic cat.

The Wild-Cats and Lynxes used to be very plentiful in the dark woods of this country, and there are a good many yet to be found in the wilder portions.



CANADA LYNX. Common in Canada and throughout the Northern United States.

Length of body $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail 6 inches; color tawny yellow with black marking. The food of the Lynx is birds, and small animals, such as rabbits and squirrels. It is harmless and inoffensive, flying from man unless wounded or brought to bay, when it will fight fiercely.

Some of these animals look very much like a fine, big, house-cat, with grayish coat, marked with dark spots or stripes, and thick, blunt tail.

When in a good humor, playfully rolling in the dry leaves beneath some giant tree, we might think that a Wild-Cat would make a nice pet; but let it catch sight of an enemy, or be trapped or caught, and one's "hair will stand on end" at its ferocity, while the woods will echo with its wild, unearthly yells.

As some of the wild-cats are so much like our pet Toms and Tabbies, it is quite possible that a long time ago, before any tame cats could be found, the wild ones were sometimes caught when they were kittens, and by means of kind treatment, plenty of milk, and a warm, snug corner by the fire-side, were made to forget their savage ways: thus beginning the family of house-cats, now so useful in destroying mice and rats in our houses and barns.

The Cheetah, or hunting leopard, differs from all the other leopards in



PARDINE LYNX. Southern Europe.

Color reddish-brown with black spots; under parts white. Length of body $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail 6 inches.

having claws more like a dog than a cat, and in seeking its prey upon the ground, by running it down, instead of suddenly springing from behind a bush, or from the overhanging limbs of trees.

Hunters say that it is a difficult matter to get a shot at the smaller varieties of the cat tribe. The Tiger seldom or never looks up in the branches of the trees, and therefore it does not perceive the hunter sitting in his "mucharn," or hiding place, usually arranged near the bait, which consists of a goat or bullock tied fast to a stake. All the

Leopards, however, approach in the most wary and cautious manner, crouching down at every few steps, and examining each yard of ground, at the same time scanning the overhanging boughs into which they frequently leap for refuge.

Many a time, when the disappointed hunter thinks the leopard has deserted his usual haunts, the animal will be closely watching him from some thick bush, behind which it has noiselessly crept. It then retreats as silently as it had advanced, and after a while the watcher returns



CARACAL LYNX. India, Africa and Arabia.

Color bright brown, under parts nearly white; length of body $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

home after a long and tedious wait, fully assured that no leopard has been within a mile of his position.

The wounds from the claws of leopards, and tiger cats of most kinds, are very dangerous, owing to their habit of feeding upon the partly decayed bodies of animals. Although the first meal from a freshly killed carcass is of course untainted, the remainder rapidly decomposes, and, as the leopard returns to the repast, the claws, which are used to hold the flesh while

it is torn by the jaws, become poisoned. A scratch from these poisoned claws therefore makes a very painful wound which will not only be slow to heal, but may cause lock-jaw.



EUROPEAN LYNX.

Color reddish-gray with black spots; length of body 3 feet.

The Jaguar, of South, and Central America and Mexico, is one of the largest and most beautifully marked of the leopard tribe. Being as big as a small tigress, and more strongly built than any of the leopards, it is a dangerous animal and has been known to attack, and kill, men and women.

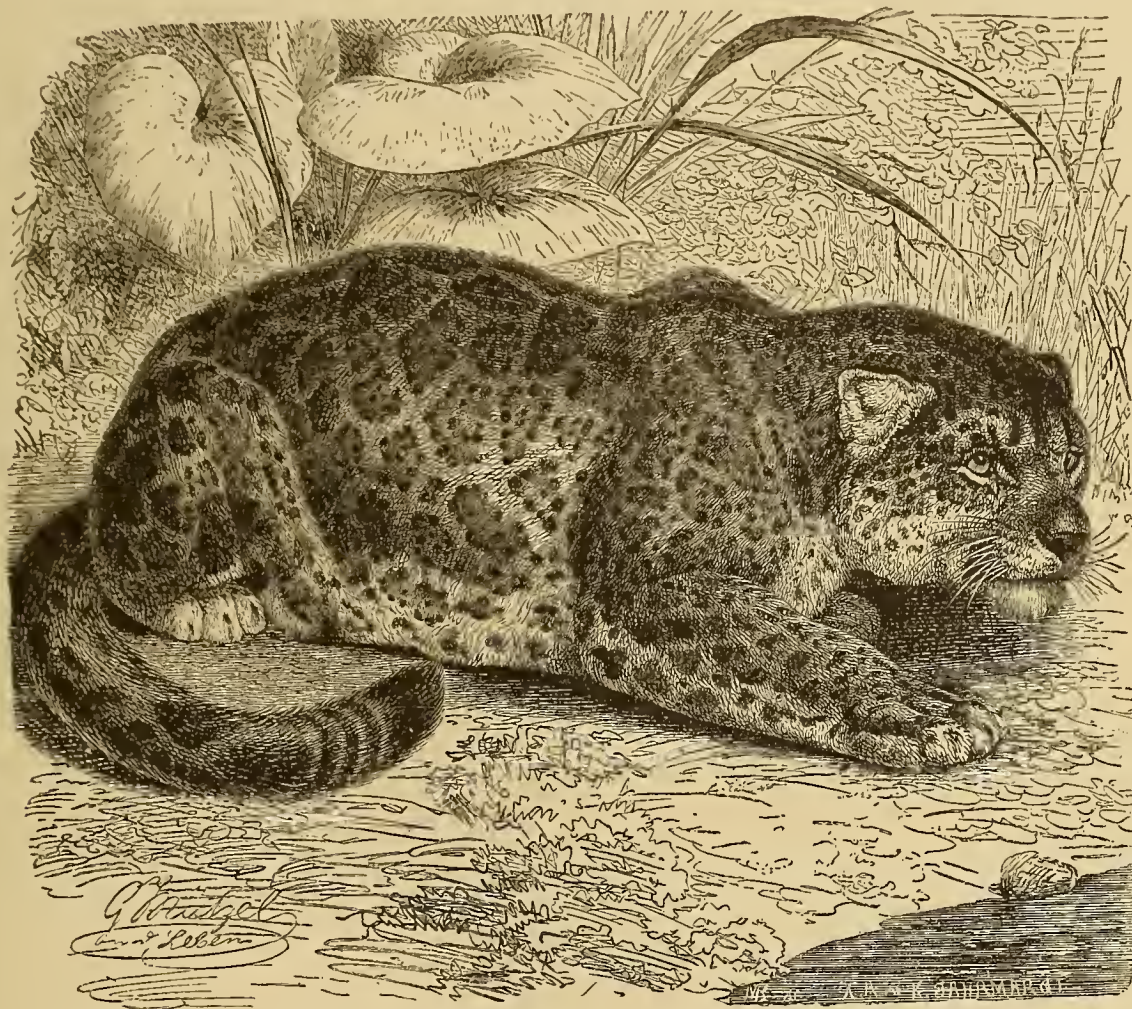
CARRIED OFF BY A JAGUAR.

In north-western Mexico, near the town of Magdalena, three children of a wealthy ranchman named Antonio Lopez, were playing one morning in the dense thicket that grew near their father's house.

The youngest was little Juan, a three-year-old boy. He had been left alone, while the others looked among the bushes for berries. Suddenly a scream was heard: the children came running back, but only in time to see a great yellow and black spotted beast seize the little fellow in its

jaws, by his loose dress, and rush away with him into the depths of the forest.

The two children ran shrieking toward the house to find help, and meeting two of the herders, told them the terrible news. The men at once rushed back in the direction pointed out by the children, but, owing to



JAGUAR, OR AMERICAN LEOPARD; South, and Central America and Mexico.

Color yellow with black, rosette-shaped spots; lower parts white. Length of body $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail, 3 feet. The food of the Jaguar generally consists of the smaller animals of the forest. So active, and quick in movement is it that monkeys, and sometimes even birds, are struck down by its sudden spring. Unlike others of the cat tribe, the Jaguar takes to the water freely and swims with ease.

the dryness of the ground, they could find no trace of the jaguar, for such it was, excepting a single shred torn from the boy's dress.

The father, when told of the terrible fate that had befallen his little son, hastily called together all the men on the place, and, loosing the hounds, ran to the wood where the jaguar had last been seen; there the dogs soon found the trail.

Following this up for nearly a half mile, the men came to a small farm upon the mountain side. What was the father's joy and amazement to

see a woman step out from a little hut which stood upon the clearing, leading by the hand, and apparently unhurt, his lost child.

In reply to the eager questions of the searching party, the woman simply said that she had killed the jaguar, rescued the child, and was about to take him back to his parents.

The calm manner in which the woman spoke of her extraordinary feat led the men to doubt the truth of her story, but she at once offered to show them the carcass of the dead animal and the weapon with which she had despatched it. Following her to a spot behind the wretched shanty which was her home, they found the dead jaguar, and beside it a heavy iron hoe which had been this humble heroine's only weapon.

She told the story simply and in a few words, saying that she had been the only person at home, and while engaged in weeding her garden plot, had heard the frightened crying of a child in a clump of bushes near the clearing.

Running to the place, she saw the jaguar, apparently exhausted, lying panting close to the child, which it had dropped, but was watching as a cat might watch a mouse. At the sight of an intruder the animal sprang out, snarling, and made a dash at the little one, as if to seize it once more, but before it could lay hold of the child, the woman, placing herself between them, struck at the jaguar with the hoe, which she still carried in her hand.

She missed the creature, which now turned and sprang upon her with a cry of rage. She fell with the jaguar, but managed to roll to one side and get upon her feet before the animal recovered itself for another spring. It again rushed at her open-mouthed; this time she struck it with the hoe, wounding it in the back and bringing the blood. The animal rolled over on the ground in agony, vainly trying to reach the wound, while the woman, snatching the child, ran in the direction of the cabin, but finding herself pursued by the jaguar, which on discovering their flight came springing after them with loud cries, she crouched behind a mass of cactus plants, hoping their thorny front would serve as a barricade.

The beast, however, seemed literally crazed by the wound, and, gathering itself for a tremendous leap, cleared the cactus. Striking on its head, it appeared to be confused for a moment, when the woman, taking advantage of its condition, brought her weapon down upon its skull with such force as to crack it. It died instantly, and, picking up the child, she returned to the shanty, where she fed the little fellow, and, arranging her



THE HOME OF THE JAGUAR.

dress, which had been nearly torn from her body when the jaguar sprang upon her, had just started for the valley when she met the hunters.

The woman was a poor ignorant creature, and of slight form, but very strong owing to her free, open-air life upon the mountain side. She scarcely seemed to realize that she had done a deed, which in nobility and heroism could have been equalled by but few men; having acted entirely from a woman's instinct to protect and guard a child.

A large reward was presented to her by the delighted father, who found, strange to say, that his little son was entirely unhurt, except from numerous scratches and bruises received while being dragged by his fierce captor over the rocks and bushes; the jaguar's teeth having been fixed only in the boy's loose clothes. The dead jaguar was found to be a young female, not quite full-grown but still a powerful and savage-looking beast, measuring six feet from the nose to the tip of its tail.

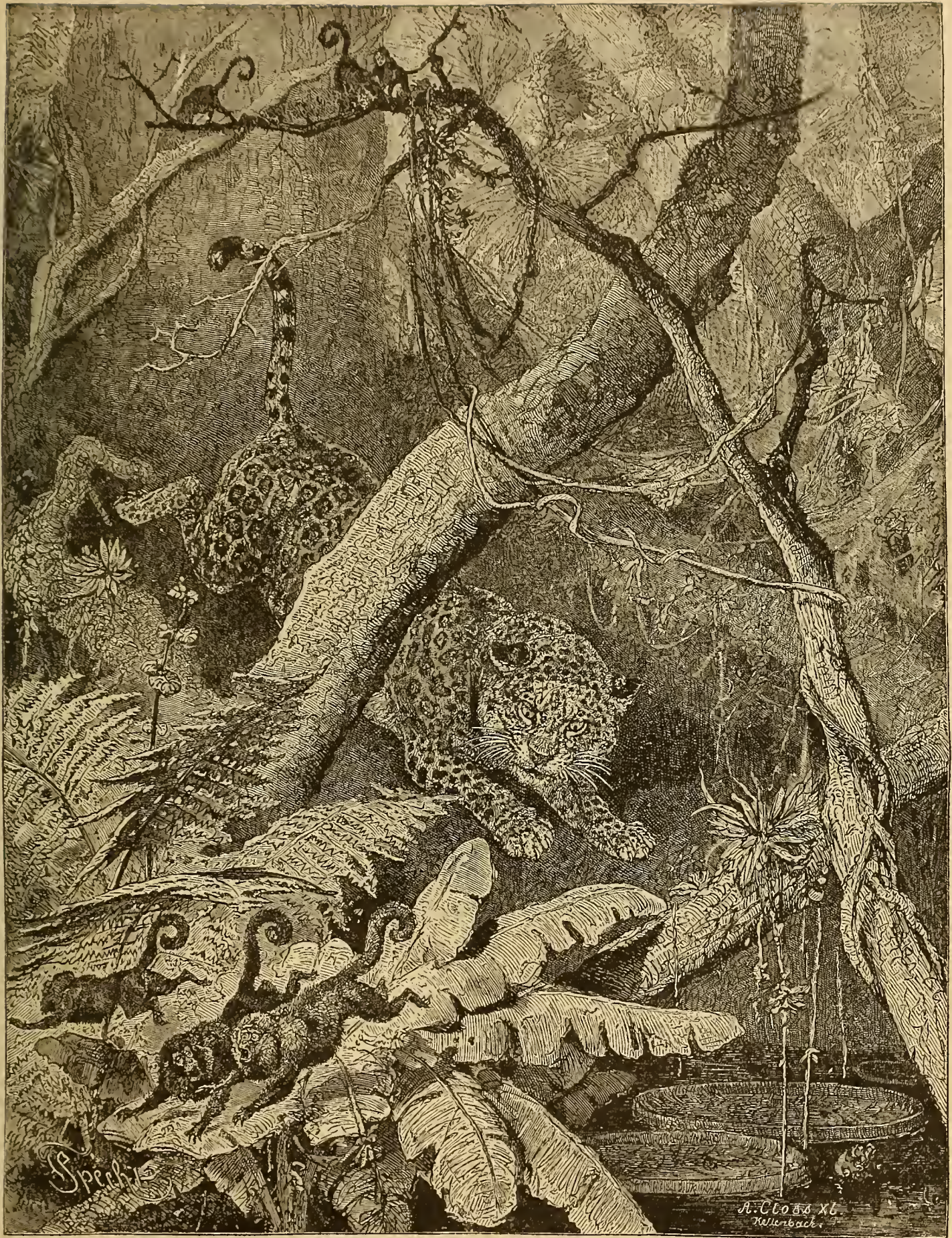
In northern Mexico, these animals seldom leave their mountain fastnesses except when forced by hunger to seek the valleys and clearings, where they prey upon young cattle and sheep. They are regarded by the ranchmen there as dangerous foes to attack, being generally very hard to kill and exceedingly savage and fearless fighters when wounded.

THE PUMA.

Next to the Jaguar, the largest of the cat tribe that is found in this country is the Puma. Few animals are known by such a variety of names; it is called the American Lion, the Panther, Cougar, Mountain Lion, and by some of the settlers in the far west, the "Painter." It is a large and powerful animal, sometimes measuring nearly eight feet in extreme length, from nose to tip of tail. The Puma is spotted somewhat like the leopard while young, but when about a year old the spots fade out of its coat, and leave it a tawny yellow.

The habits of the Puma are the same as those of others of the leopard tribe. About sunset it comes stealthily out from its hiding place and prowls about during the night in search of prey. Woe betide the unfortunate deer or sheep that happens to be seen by the fierce beast; for, springing upon its throat, it clings there with sharp claws until the neck is broken or the victim strangled.

Before there were so many people living in this country as there are



JAGUAR AND MONKEYS.

now, the Puma was common everywhere but in the coldest parts of the northern States. Although it does not often attack people, it has a constant thirst for blood, and is always ready to help itself from the sheep-fold of the farmer. A single Puma has been known to kill twenty sheep in one night, drinking a little blood from each, and leaving the carcass untorn. Although the Puma does not often attack man, it has sometimes done so, and as the following adventure shows, may be a very dangerous foe.

ATTACKED BY A MOUNTAIN LION.

Two brothers, who once lived in the wild mountain region of northern Pennsylvania, where many miles of dark, untracked forests may even yet be found, started out one morning with their guns and dogs to hunt for deer.

Reaching one of the steep, heavily wooded hills which are common in that part of the country, they decided to separate and go in different directions around the base of the mountain, and to meet on the other side.

It was also agreed that if either fired his gun, the other was to hasten to the spot from which the sound came, and join in the pursuit of whatever game might have been started.

Soon after they had parted the eldest of the brothers heard a shot. He at once ran in the direction of the report, looking this side and that for some sign of the game.

When he reached the spot from which the sound had apparently come, he was surprised to see nothing of his brother. Going a little further he was startled to see, stretched on the ground, his brother's dog. It was dead and terribly mangled. This showed that the animal his brother had fired at must have been large and ferocious, so he felt greatly alarmed for his safety, and cautiously advanced, with gun at full-cock, peering from side to side into every bush and thicket.

Suddenly, from a tree a few paces ahead came a savage growl; he stopped, looked up, and there, crouched on an overhanging limb, was an immense puma, and under it, firmly held by the great paws, was the body of his brother.

The tawny monster glared fiercely at him and uttered another menacing growl. It seemed to hesitate whether to leave its prey and spring to attack this new enemy, or to drag the body of its unfortunate victim further into the recesses of the wood.

Filled with horror at the sight, the hunter did not give the savage beast much time to act. Knowing the marvellous quickness of its movements he instantly raised his gun, which was loaded with ball, and aiming between the creature's shining eye-balls, pulled the trigger. The aim was a true one: with a yell that could be heard for a mile through the forest, the puma loosed its hold on the body of its victim, and together both fell to the earth. The remaining dog bravely attacked the foe as soon as



PUMA, sometimes called the Mountain Lion or Panther. It is occasionally found in the wilder portions of the United States, and is common in South America.

Color tawny yellow, under parts grayish-white; length of body over four feet, tail three feet. Next to the Jaguar, the Puma is the largest of the cat tribe found on the American continent.

it reached the ground, but the powerful paws still retained sufficient strength to kill, and the dog was stretched lifeless by the side of the bleeding man. The bullet in the head had done its work, however, and soon the puma ceased its struggles.

Quickly the hunter approached the two prostrate bodies, and kneeling by the side of his brother put his hand on his heart. It had ceased to

beat; he was quite dead. The puma had probably sprung upon him, after having killed the dog, and as the shot that was fired had entirely missed its aim, the hunter paid for his poor marksmanship with his life.

A DUCK-HUNTER'S ADVENTURE.

The story of another, and less serious, encounter with a Puma is told by a sportsman who was duck-shooting on a branch of the St. John's River, Florida.



CIVET, OR CIVET CAT; Northern Africa and Eastern Asia.

Length from nose to tip of tail 3 feet. Color yellowish-gray with black spots and stripes. The animals of the civet family produce the well-known scent called "civet," which was once not only esteemed as a perfume but was considered a useful medicine.

The civet-scent is a white, fatty substance, which is secreted in two curious little pouches, or turnings-in of the skin near the tail. The numerous varieties of the civet tribe live upon birds, small animals, and insects, for which they hunt during the night-time.

In order to get near the birds, without their seeing him, he had placed over his head the corner of his rubber coat, while he crept along the river bank, upon hands and knees. The coat only half covered his body and trailed along behind him.

Suddenly he was startled by a loud noise, something between a bark and a roar, and immediately afterward felt some heavy body strike his feet. Instantly jumping up he saw, to his amazement, a large puma actually standing on his coat.

Perhaps the beast was equally astonished at being confronted with a man, instead of some small and harmless animal, which would prove an easy prey. It remained perfectly motionless, with eyes fixed on the startled duck-hunter, who, although holding his gun in his hand, feared to fire, lest the small shot in the cartridges would not kill, but only enrage the beast: it was an anxious moment. The great cat stood with back slightly arched, and tail swaying from side to side, for fully ten seconds,



COMMON GENET; Northern Africa and Southern Europe.

Color gray with black or brown spots. Length of body 20 inches; tail nearly the same. It is sometimes tamed and will catch mice as well as a cat.

which seemed like an hour to the man confronting it. At last the beast turned its head and walked slowly away, but stopped when about ten yards distant, and faced about: the man maintained his ground, upon which the puma, apparently admitting his superiority, turned again and walked off into the bushes.

When forced by hunger to seek its prey near the lonely clearings, or farms, nothing is either too small or too large for the Puma to attack.

When once fairly started upon its midnight expeditions, all that belongs to the farmer's stock, from a chicken on the roost to a cow in the pasture, is fair game for the wily Puma.

A story which affords a good example of this animal's boldness when short of food, is told as follows:—

A PUMA ATTACKS A COW AND HER CALF.

A cow, with a young calf, was confined in a cattle-shed within a few feet of the farmer's house. She was very cross, and it was not safe for a



LUWACK, OR COMMON PARADOXURE; India.

Length of body 2 feet, tail nearly the same. Color yellowish-brown with dark spots and stripes. It is common throughout the greater part of India and Ceylon, and in its habits resembles the genet and civet-cat.

stranger to come near her, especially as her horns were unusually long and pointed. The roof of the shed was covered with loose boards and straw.

During the night a puma which was prowling about, jumped on the roof of the shed and began to scratch a hole through it, intending to make a meal of the sleeping animals below.

The cow soon heard the enemy at work above, and ever mindful of the safety of her beloved calf, stood ready to receive the intruder on her sharp horns as soon as it should make an entrance. Immediately upon

the puma's descent it was pinned to the ground, before it had time to make its spring.

The noise of the tremendous struggle which followed aroused the farmer, who, with lantern in hand, opened the cattle-shed door and discovered the cow in a frantic state of rage, butting and tossing some large object to and fro, which appeared to have lost all power of resistance. This was the puma,



ZIBETH; China, India and other parts of Asia.

Length, including tail, 3 feet. Color grayish-white marked with dark stripes. In captivity it is gentle, and is sometimes tamed and kept in the houses of the natives, much as our domestic cat.



DELUNDUNG, Java and Malacca.

Color a beautiful silvery-gray with large stripes and spots of dark brown; a somewhat rare animal.

in its last gasp, having been run through the body by the sharp horns of the brave mother, whose little calf was nestled in a corner, safe from harm.

No sooner had the farmer appeared upon the scene, than the character of the conflict changed; the cow, in her excited state, looked on him as a

new enemy, and leaving the battered form of the first disturber of her peace, charged straight at her owner, who dropped his lantern and flew back to his wife, whom he had left safe in bed.

After some delay, during which the courage of all parties was restored, excepting that of the crippled puma, the cow was quieted, and a shot from a pistol, through the head of the midnight marauder, put an end to the conflict.



BINTURONG (*Arctictis*); Sumatra and Java.

Length of body $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; of tail, which is prehensile, 2 feet. It lives among the trees, generally sleeping during the day and searching for its food at night, which consists of small animals and birds, and occasionally insects and fruit. Color black with white marking upon head and ears.

The stealthy approach of the Puma is so noiseless that a dog is seized by the neck and carried off before it is aware of the presence of its enemy.

Upon one occasion, says a traveller in South America, we were encamped for the night on the banks of a river, and no sound disturbed our repose. Suddenly a puma bounded into the centre, where the men were sleeping around the embers of a fire, and pinning down one of the dogs by a grip upon the neck, sprang back into the darkness, carrying its captive with it. Although at once pursued the fierce beast could not be overtaken.

WEASELS, STOATS, MARTENS, ETC.

The animals of the WEASEL kind have long and slender bodies, with short legs, and although most of them are very small, they are fierce and blood-thirsty. Their agile, snake-like bodies wind their way through the underwood of the forests, or through small holes in the walls of the barn or poultry house. They are wonderfully quick in their movements, and are terrible enemies to birds and many of the weaker animals.

The Common Weasel is the smallest of its tribe, being not more than ten inches in length when full grown. Its color is reddish-brown, the under part of the body being white. Weasels are found in many parts of the world and are common in the United States, although their watchfulness and agility, together with their small size, render it hard to get sight of them, even in places where they are known to live. They are great enemies of rats and mice, hunting them through their holes and burrows, and following the scent with such deadly certainty that their prey seldom escapes from them when once the little hunter has set itself fairly on the track.

When the Weasel has reached its victim, it leaps upon it and fastens its sharp teeth in the back of the neck, there retaining a deadly hold in spite of every struggle on the part of the wounded animal.

It seems to know the exact place to inflict a wound that will most quickly kill, and usually sinks its teeth through the skull, into the brain, thus causing instant death.

In killing the rats and mice, the Weasel does good service to the



COMMON WEASEL; Europe and America.

Length from nose to tip of tail 10 inches. Color reddish-brown and white.

farmer, but not content with such small game, it will sometimes creep into the poultry house, or dovecote, and carry off the little chicks, or even kill full grown fowls by a single deadly bite upon the head. It is also very fond of eggs, and robs the nest of many a hen, or wild-bird, of its treasures by climbing up to where it rests, and sucking out the contents of each egg through a small hole, which it bites in the end.

Lying hidden in the grass or brush-wood, the Weasel will sometimes wait until a bird or small animal approaches near enough to be caught. Then it leaps from its place of concealment and fastens upon the head or neck.



SOUTH AMERICAN WEASEL.

A WEASEL'S QUICKNESS.

A sportsman, who was once crossing a field after a covey of partridges, was surprised to see a weasel leap from the ground and seize one of the birds, just as it was rising on the wing, bringing it to the earth, a ruffled mass of feathers. On going to the spot the active little animal was found already devouring the bird it had so cleverly captured. So much was it enjoying its meal, that it allowed the hunter to approach near enough to kill it with a blow from a stick.

On another occasion a weasel was seen to capture and kill a crow in a somewhat similar manner.

The crow was about alighting in a field when a little brown body was seen to dart upon it and bring it to the ground. The person who witnessed this curious occurrence, walked at once to the spot and found the crow dead, from a wound in its neck; the weasel at once hid in a neighboring hedge, but soon reappeared and was allowed to drag away its prize.

The quickness and cunning of the weasel is put to the test when birds



TAYRA, sometimes called the Great Weasel; South America.

Color black with white marking on throat. Total length nearly 2 feet.

are its prey, for, being able to fly, they can escape by a single effort—the mere sight of the weasel's brown body is a signal to spread their wings and fly far away.

THE WEASEL'S HIDING PLACE.

How the weasel succeeds in capturing a bird, is told by an eye witness of the following incident. In a stubble field was a bunch of long grass, on which it was noticed some little birds were fond of alighting, in order to peck off the seeds which yet remained on the ends of the tall stalks. Presently, a weasel was seen to dart from a neighboring hedge and conceal itself in the long grass. Suspecting that the little animal was up to mischief, the person who relates this incident quietly seated himself near by, and patiently watched the place where the weasel lay hidden.

After a while the little birds, entirely unconscious of any danger, came flitting past, and soon one of them alighted on the bunch of grass. Instantly

the weasel sprang up from below, caught the bird, and ran off with it in its mouth.

At all times the Weasels are ill tempered little brutes, and ready for a fight, but when a mother weasel sees her little ones endangered, by man or beast, she becomes a really dangerous opponent. Small as she is, she can give a very severe bite. Moreover, she does not trust entirely to her

own efforts in resisting the enemy, but calls to her aid, by shrill squeaks, all her friends and neighbors, who fly to the attack with great fury.



KINKAJOU; South America. It is sometimes called Mexican Weasel, but is not of the weasel family, bearing greater resemblance to the Raccoon.

Total length 30 inches, of which the tail is more than half. Color light dun marked with narrow bands of darker shade. It lives chiefly among the trees, and is a fearless climber, possessing the power to clasp the boughs with its prehensile tail. It seeks its food at night, which consists of fruit, insects, honey and small birds and their eggs.

ATTACKED BY WEASELS.

Once, while driving along a country road, a teamster saw a man in an adjoining field acting in a most extraordinary manner. He was jumping up and down, flinging his arms about, and really looked as if he had suddenly become crazy. The driver stopped his horses and approached to find out what was the matter. As soon as he reached the stranger he found that his excitement was caused by the attack of a number of weasels, which were running up his body, and striving desperately to reach his neck.

The man's hands were so much occupied in tearing off his little assailants and throwing them away, that he had no time for

killing any of them, so they were returning to the attack as fast as they were dislodged.

A few strokes from the teamster's whip killed a number of the animals, and the rest, seeing that reinforcements had arrived, took to flight. The help had come no sooner than it was needed, for the man who had been

attacked said that he was nearly tired out, and could not have kept his little foes at a distance much longer.

The cause of the attack was this: he had been passing near an old wall, and saw there a weasel running about. He began to tease the animal, which, finding itself unable to escape, uttered a shrill squeak. Instantly about fifteen other weasels issued from holes in the wall, and began an attack, which, if it had not been for timely help, might have ended seriously.

This shows that Weasels, although generally so quick in getting out of sight when in the presence of man that only a glimpse of brown fur can be seen, may be, at times, dangerous opponents.

WEASEL AND HERON.

Two gentlemen who were walking along a road in western Pennsylvania, had their attention attracted by loud screams and screeches which came from a field near by. They went to the spot and found that a fight was going on between a heron and a weasel. The weasel was making desperate leaps, and trying to seize the neck of the bird. Sometimes he succeeded in getting a hold, but the heron each time managed to shake him off. His long neck giving him sufficient power to do so.

The heron would then seize the weasel by the throat, with its long bill, shaking it as a terrier does a rat.

The battle thus continued for several minutes, neither of the fighters taking notice of the lookers-on.

A farmer's boy, who had also heard the noise of the conflict, now came up and immediately ran to capture the heron, seizing it by the neck. He then tried to catch the weasel, but the little animal turned upon him in the most vicious manner, leaping up nearly to the height of his waist, in



SURICAT; South Africa.
Color brownish-gray, with dark stripes.

its effort to get at his hands or neck. It might have succeeded in this, had not a dog appeared on the scene, which soon despatched the little beast.

Another incident, showing how Weasels will sometimes join forces when attacking an enemy, is thus described:—

CHASED BY WEASELS.

A laborer who was digging a ditch, on a farm in one of the Western States, was suddenly attacked by six weasels, that rushed upon him from a nest which he had cut into with his shovel.

The man was alarmed at such a sudden attack, and at once dropped everything and ran for a few steps. He was not very quick on his feet, however, and, looking around he saw his little pursuers close behind. Seizing a switch he tried, by several back-handed strokes, to stop them, yet so eager was their pursuit that he was on the point of being bitten by them, when he luckily noticed at some distance the fallen branch of a tree. Running to this, he snatched it up, and with a few vigorous strokes killed three of his enemies and put the rest to flight.



MINK; Europe and America.

Color black or dark brown. Total length about 2 feet. It is generally found near the banks of rivers or ponds; it takes to the water readily and lives principally upon fish, frogs, and crawfish, with occasionally smaller animals and birds.

Although the Weasel cannot be called a useful or valuable animal to man, except when he destroys the troublesome rats and mice, he has a near relation, called the Sable, which is one of the most highly prized little animals in the world.

In the far north, where the snow and ice last nearly the whole year round,

many persons make their living by trapping the Sable for the sake of its beautiful coat. The skins, when pieced together, make the highly prized fur garments which are worn by the rich and great people of different lands.

The fur of the Sable is most beautiful in the coldest months, and during the long, severe northern winters, the hunters undergo terrible hardships, and even lose their lives amid the wastes of snow in which these richly dressed little creatures live.

Often a heavy storm will suddenly come up, and cover up every bit of



SABLE; Northern Europe and Asia. A variety is also found in North America and in Japan.

Size about the same as a large house cat, but with much shorter legs; color varying from black to different shades of brown. The skin of the Asiatic Sable is specially celebrated for its beauty. The valuable fur of this animal is in its best condition during the coldest winter months. They make their nests generally in hollow trees, near the banks of brooks and rivers. During the summer the food of the sable is hares, rabbits, and sometimes birds which it strikes down among the branches by a well-aimed leap, and sharp stroke of its paw; in winter, berries and even tender twigs form part of its food.

the path the trapper has made for himself. The deep snow will even bury the hut in which he lives, and perhaps for days he will be unable to get out; or, a heavy storm will come up suddenly and hide all his traps so that he cannot reach them.

In spite of the danger of being buried in the great drifts of snow, which are heaped up by these fierce storms of the far north, there are many men who pursue this dangerous calling, and spend winter after winter in hunting the sable. They wear thick fur clothes from head to

foot, and patiently search for the tracks of the little animals, following them to their holes, which they burrow in the earth near the banks of rivers, in the thickest parts of the vast northern forests.

Sometimes the burrows are in the ground, and sometimes a hollow tree is chosen for a home; but wherever it lives, the Sable always takes care to be comfortable and warm, on a nice soft nest of moss and leaves.

The trappers generally trace them to their homes by tracks in the snow, over which the light, active little fellows can easily run, while a man has



PINE MARTIN OR AMERICAN SABLE; North America.

Color dark brown, breast and throat yellowish white. Total length $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet (of which the tail is about 10 inches). It lives principally among the trees, which it climbs with great agility, seeking to surprise and capture the birds and small animals which form its principal food.

to wear broad, flat snow shoes to keep himself from sinking waist deep. Usually the sables are caught in traps, and these must be cleverly made to avoid hurting the valuable fur. They are also caught by placing a net over the mouth of the burrow, into this the little animals go when they try to come out into the open air. The color of the Sable's coat is generally a rich, dark brown: sometimes it is quite black, and such fur is the most valuable. The skin is so soft and elastic that it can be stretched and turned freely in any direction, and will always lie smoothly, without wrinkling.

Beside the rich Sable, the weasel family supplies us with another royal fur, the ermine. This is the winter coat of a little animal scarcely more than a foot long, called the Stoat.

When winter comes, the bright brown fur of the Stoat changes into the beautiful, pure white of the much-admired and costly ermine, only the tail keeps its jet-black color on the tip, all through the winter, and makes a fine contrast with the rest of its coat.

On account of its valuable fur, these little animals are eagerly hunted and trapped, during the cold season, in the north: but even if they always wore their dull, summer coat of brown, which is of little value, their lives would still be sought, for they kill the farmers' chickens, rob nests of their eggs, and are very destructive to small game. Even hares and rabbits, which are so swift of foot, frequently fall victims to this bloodthirsty, little destroyer.

A stoat's attack is thus described.

STOAT AND RABBIT.

A piercing cry was heard beneath some bushes, and suddenly out in the path ran a poor rabbit, bearing a stoat, which had fastened upon its neck. The rabbit leaped into the air, and jumped this way and that, in its effort to escape from its terrible little foe, but the stoat had sunk its sharp teeth in the back of the rabbit's neck and could not be dislodged. We noticed that the stoat was also holding on by its short but powerful fore-legs, while its long snake-like body was pressed close to the back of the struggling rabbit, impeding its every movement.



BEECH MARTIN, sometimes called the **White-Throated Martin**. Northern Europe and America.

Total length about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Color dark brown; breast and neck white. It is a tree climber, preying upon birds and robbing nests of their eggs.

The unequal combat would soon have been over, if the stoat had not caught sight of us. It at once loosened its hold, ran to a hollow tree that stood near, and disappeared in an opening in the trunk. The poor rabbit lay motionless on the ground, and though the wound made by the stoat's teeth was very small, it soon ceased to breathe.

Stoats are by no means cowardly, and when a number of them are together it may be very dangerous to attack them.



STOAT, or Ermine; northern Europe.

Total length 14 inches; color during the summer reddish-brown, and in the winter creamy white, excepting the tail, which remains jet black; at this season the fur is highly prized.

THE STOAT'S FIERCE ATTACK.

A man who was walking along the road one day, saw two stoats sitting in the path. Scarcely thinking what he did, he threw a stone which knocked one of them over.

At once the other gave a loud, peculiar cry, which was followed by answering squeaks from the bushes alongside. In a moment a pack of stoats sprang out and made a most fierce and vicious attack upon the enemy who had injured their companion. They paid no attention to the kicks and blows aimed at them, but leaped upon him, and tried to reach his neck.

As they were actually swarming over the man, he wound about his neck a thick woollen comforter, that, fortunately enough he was wearing,

and fought them off as best he could; but soon finding that he would not be able to cope with them alone, he pulled his hat firmly over his temples, and pressing his hands tightly upon the comforter that covered the large veins of his neck, he turned and ran at full speed toward home.

During the long run of nearly a mile, most of the little animals dropped off, but two of them held firmly to the man's clothing all the way, and were only killed at the very door of his house, by a friend who chanced

to come out to meet him. The narrator of the adventure shows scars on his hands and arms to this day, resulting from the bites of his fierce little assailants, and he firmly believes that but for the protecting folds of the comforter, his neck would have been wounded by their sharp teeth, and his life perhaps endangered.

The Ferret is larger than the Weasel, but is of similar shape, and looks very much like its small relation except in color, which in the Ferret is very often pure white, the eyes being pink. One might think, from this pretty dress, that it was a gentle little animal, and would make a nice pet; but it is, on the contrary, one of the fiercest members of the bloodthirsty weasel family. These very qualities, however, make it useful to man, and Ferrets are the companions of rat-catchers, and rabbit hunters, the world over.

These Hunting Ferrets are trained to work their way into holes and burrows, and to drive the rats, or rabbits out to their masters. They have to be muzzled before they are sent into the holes, for if this were not done, they would kill the first rabbit they met, and after satisfying their hunger, could not be depended upon to continue the hunt.

Almost any Ferret will readily enter a rabbit burrow, and drive out the inmates, for poor bunny does not think of resisting, but runs with all his might as soon as he sees his dangerous little pursuer.

A well-grown and vicious old rat is, however, quite another kind of game, and, after suffering once from his bite, the ferret shows great respect for a rat's teeth, and does not always care to place itself within reach of these sharp weapons.



FERRET.

Total length about 15 inches; color generally white; originally native of Africa, but partially domesticated in Europe and America, where it is trained to destroy rats. It is also sometimes used by rabbit hunters, to drive their game from the burrows in which it has taken refuge.

A Ferret that has been well trained for rat hunting, is quite valuable.

Once, a familiar figure in the streets of Philadelphia was "Harry the rat-catcher." Nobody seemed to know whether he possessed any other name, but for years he pursued his curious calling, and carried consternation into the ranks of the rat army which infested the great market houses, stores and stables. Harry was, as far as it was possible for him to be, a walking advertisement of his business. Of small, slight figure, with gray hair, but sharp-eyed and quick in his movements, there was something in his very appearance that suggested the wily rodents



POLECAT ; Europe and America.

Total length 2 feet; color dark brown, head marked with white. A substance having an offensive odor is secreted in glands near the tail.

which he pursued. Then he always carried three or four ferrets in a sort of box, or cage slung by a strap from his shoulder: their white snake-like bodies being plainly visible as they impatiently squirmed about in their narrow prison, apparently sure that the time was merely wasted, which was not spent in active pursuit of their furry enemies.

A net folded up into small compass, but of considerable size, was snugly stowed away on the top of the box, and closely following his heels were two or three wiry little terriers.

Harry's method of rat hunting was simple, but very effective, provided

the holes, or runs were not too extensive, and did not lead into distant burrows, or underground drains; in which case, not only rats but ferrets also were sometimes lost.

In most cases, however, the ferrets would be placed at the mouth of a burrow and would run quickly through it, driving before them the terrified rats, which, on appearing above ground, would either be seized by the watchful terriers, or enclosed in the net which was spread over the outlet of their retreat. Thousands of rats were thus killed, and the city relieved of at least a part of the destructive host, while the payment received for his services afforded for many years a modest, but sufficient support to the man of the nets and ferrets.

All the animals of the weasel kind have a strong odor, or smell, which renders them anything but pleasant to touch or handle, but by far the worst of them in their evil smelling ways, are the Skunks. These little animals are very common throughout our whole country, and most of us have, some time or other, been so unfortunate as

to come upon their tracks, and thus get a whiff of their penetrating perfume.

While many of the weasel tribe have two little glands or sacs, situated near the tail, in which is collected a liquid of more or less powerful odor, this substance in the Skunk is not only far more powerful and ill smelling than in any other animal, but the Skunk is enabled, by muscles attached



SKUNK; North America.

Length of body 18 inches, tail 12 inches. Color brownish-black and white. The markings vary in different animals, some being almost entirely black while others show much white. Skunks live in burrows which they dig with their strong claws.

to the gland, to eject its vile contents eight or ten feet in the direction of any foe that may attack it, and thus use it as a weapon of defence.

If, indeed, the Skunk had not this means of protecting itself, it would be a feeble and almost defenceless creature, for it cannot run fast nor can it climb or swim without great effort.

The Skunk does not often use its singular power, unless attacked, and after the scent gland is once emptied it is inoffensive and harmless; but woe to the man or beast against whom its powers are successfully directed. So strong is the disgusting odor that it can be distinguished for a mile, and so offensive that persons frequently are made sick by coming close to the animal. Dogs will not approach it if they have once suffered from the consequences of an attack.

Not always, when a Skunk is encountered, will it exert its peculiar powers. This is probably owing, either to the animal's being too much terrified to attempt its usual mode of protecting itself, or, to its having recently exhausted the defensive fluid upon some other object. Like all the weasel tribe, Skunks are fond of poultry, and the hen-house often suffers from their midnight attacks.

Trappers take large numbers of these little animals in the Western and Middle States; their skins bringing a good price. After the furrier has carefully dyed the long thick hair, it appears a beautiful, glossy black, and is made up into muff

or boa, to be worn by many a lady who never dreams that her soft, warm furs have first been carried by the evil-smelling Skunk.



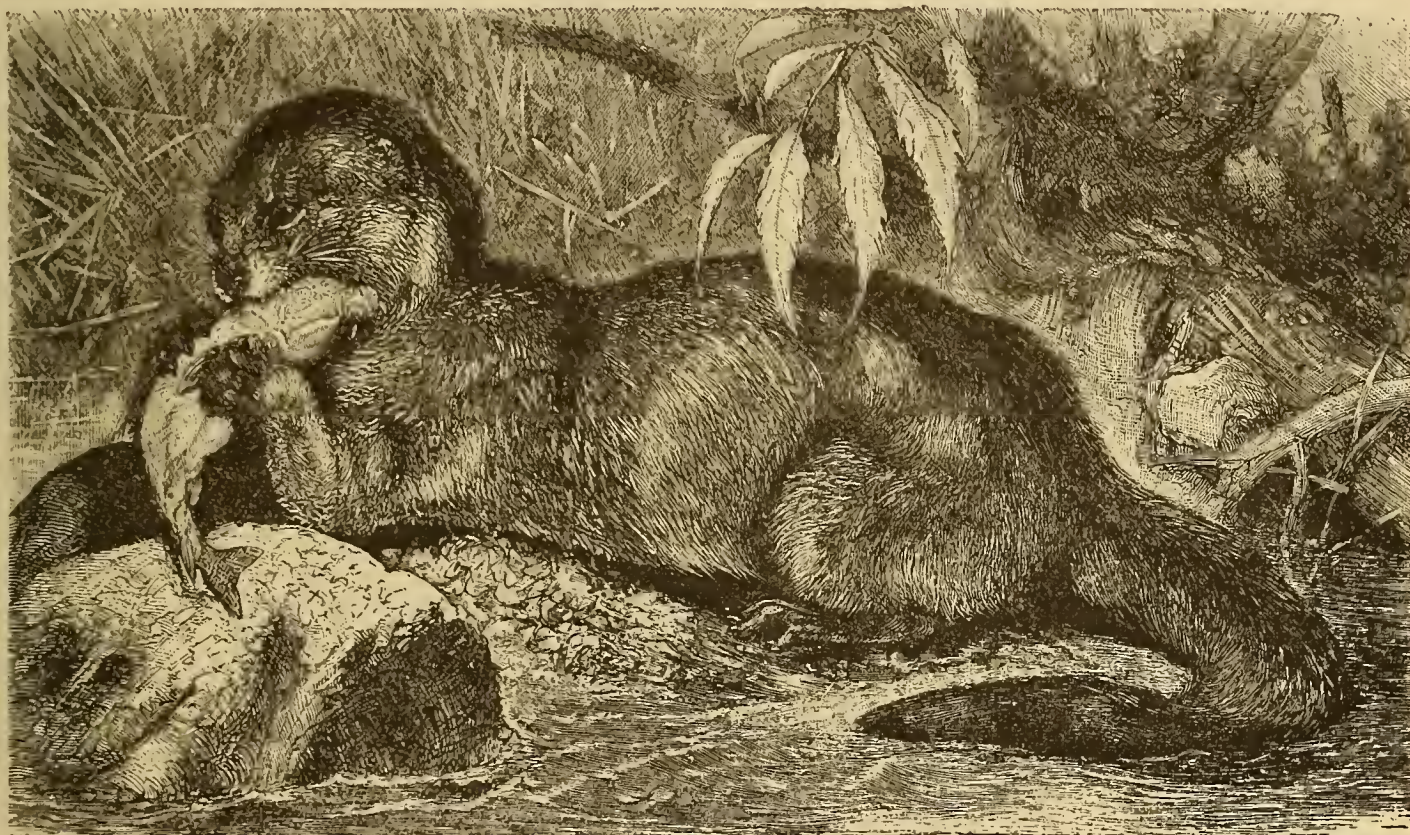
TELEDU; Java.

Color brownish-black, with white stripe along the back extending from head to tail. Entire length less than 2 feet. The odor of this animal is almost as offensive as that of the skunk. Its food is principally worms and insects, for which it roots in the ground, like the pig.

While most of the weasel family can swim, if forced to take to the water, there is one member of it, the Otter, which is much more at home in the water than on land. There are two kinds, the Sea Otter, which

lives in the ocean, and the common Otter which is found in rivers and streams. The food of both is principally fish, and they are such rapid swimmers, and can dash through the water so quickly that they have no trouble in catching all they want. The Otter has a dainty taste, too, and only eats the best parts of a fish, leaving the head and tail untouched.

It is wonderful to see how well fitted this animal is for its life in the water. Its body is long and flattened, and of a shape, from the nose to the very tip of its tail, that will slip through the water most easily. The



COMMON OTTER; North America.

Color brown. Length of body 2 feet; tail 1 foot. The Otter was once frequently found in the rivers and streams of this country, but it is now very scarce. It is a great destroyer of fish.

feet have a broad web which connects the toes, making good paddles to drive the creature along. The tail is wide and flat, serving as a rudder to enable the Otter to make the quick and sudden turns that are necessary when chasing its finny prey.

Although this animal finds its food in the water, its home is placed on dry land; and is usually as snug and warm as it can be made, with dry grass and leaves. The Otter's nest, or bed, is placed in a hole burrowed into the bank of the river, being as near the stream as possible, so that in case of a sudden alarm its occupant can plunge into the water, with all

its family, and find a safer hiding place among the weeds and rushes of the river's bed.

Only in the wilder parts of America are river Otters now to be found; and even in the quiet and well shaded streams that run through the dark northern forests, they are not at all numerous.

It requires a great number of fish to keep but a single one of these animals supplied with food; four or five good-sized trout a day is not at



SEA OTTER, or KALAN; Shores of the Northern Pacific Ocean.

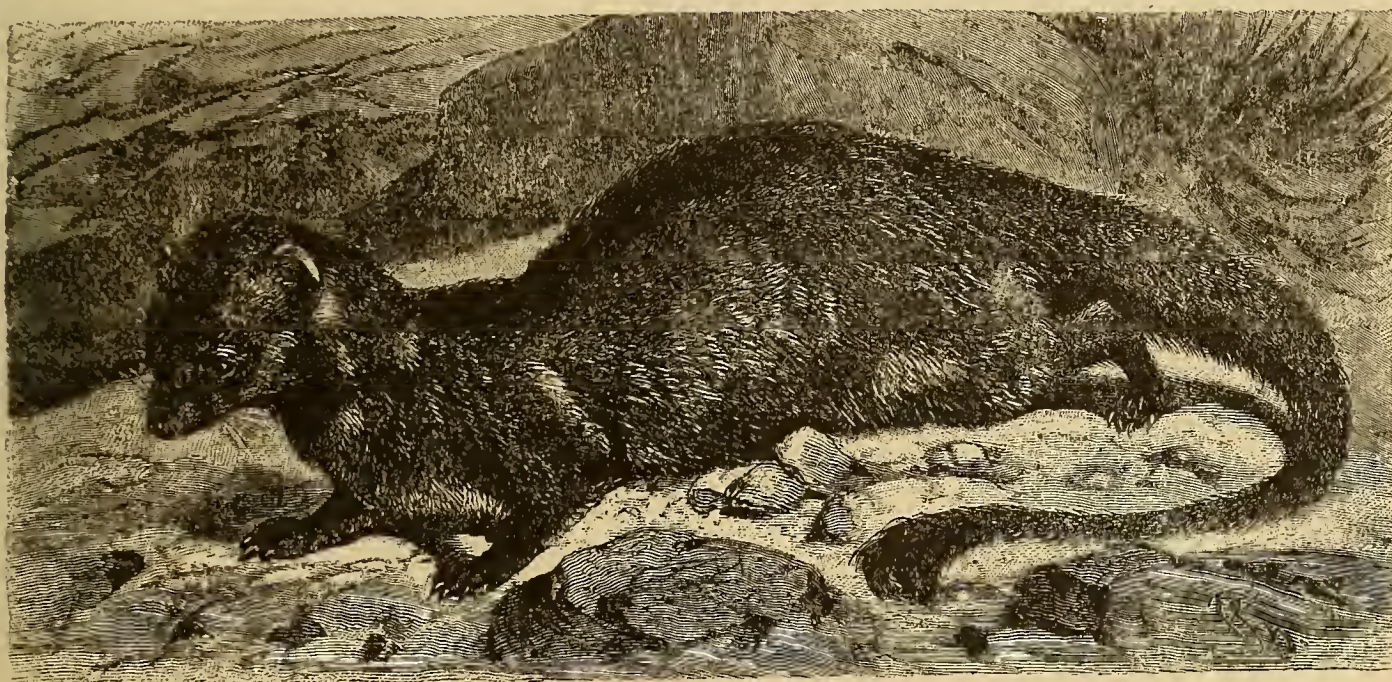
Color dark brown above; under parts and head light brown. The Sea Otter is the largest of its kind, being $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in total length and weighing, when full grown, 80 pounds. Its thick, glossy fur is very beautiful, and so valuable that hunters upon the shores of the Northern Seas are constantly on the watch for the animal. The Sea Otter is never found in large numbers, but is rather scarce.

all an unusual quantity for an Otter to devour. He is therefore a great foe to fishermen, and those who are fond of sport with hook and line, will be glad that he is not as common as some others of the four-footed tribe.

The Sea Otter is somewhat larger than its fresh water relation, being almost twice the size of the common Otter, and weighing as much as seventy or eighty pounds.

During the colder months of the year it is found on the Northern Pacific coast, but is a somewhat rare animal now, its exceedingly valuable fur having caused it to be much sought after. Sea Otter hunters, on the shores of Washington and Oregon, have a curious way of sighting their game. When the tide is low they take out three long, slender poles, as far as the shoal water extends, and then set them up with the ends buried in the sand, so that the tall tops cross each other in the air.

Up this frail framework the hunter clambers and, sitting upon some cross-pieces lashed to the poles, watches with gun in hand, over the wide



ICHNEUMON, sometimes called Pharaoh's Rat; Egypt.

Color brown, sprinkled with white hairs. Length of body 18 inches; tail nearly the same. The Ichneumon devours the eggs of the Crocodile and is thus useful in keeping down the numbers of these great reptiles. Snakes, lizards and rats are also destroyed by it. Probably owing to these qualities it was considered a sacred animal by the ancient Egyptians. It is easily tamed and shows some attachment to its master.

expanse of water which is visible from his high perch. As soon as an Otter is seen a shot is aimed at it, and if the bullet strikes the mark the game is secured by a boat.

The fur of the Sea Otter is very valuable, being thick, soft and beautiful.

The long, serpent-like body of the Ichneumon can turn and twist in any direction, as the little animal darts here and there in pursuit of its prey. It is common in Egypt and is highly valued as a destroyer of dangerous reptiles.

Snakes, rats, mice, frogs and sometimes birds, fall a prey to this active little hunter. Small and weak as it seems, being no larger than a cat, yet the terrible Crocodile has reason to fear it; for the Ichneumon hunts for the eggs of the great reptile, where it has buried them in the sand by the river, and destroys great numbers of them, and of the young Crocodiles as well, thus doing good service to man by preventing the too rapid increase of this fierce monster.

Sometimes the Ichneumon is tamed and kept about the houses of the people of Egypt and India.

An American resident in Egypt says: I once caught a young Ichneumon which I took home, giving it plenty of milk to drink, and afterwards, when



MONGOOS, OR INDIAN ICHNEUMON; India.

Similar in color to the Egyptian Ichneumon, but of somewhat smaller size.

it grew a little larger, fed it on baked meat, mixed with rice. It soon became even tamer than a cat, for it came to me when I called, and followed me all about.

It thrived very well on this food and seemed so mild and harmless in disposition, that I began to think the stories about the fighting qualities of this active little animal were not true. One day, however, I found a small water snake and brought it home with me, as I was determined to see whether the natural instinct of "Inky" as I called him, would lead him to attack a reptile, such as he had never before seen.

I put the snake down before him, and withdrew to watch the result. As soon as the Ichneumon saw the serpent, he seemed to fairly bristle

with anger; his hair stood erect and his eyes sparkled with a fierce glow, that I had never seen in them before. The snake also seemed to realize that it was facing an enemy, and raising its head, darted out its forked tongue in a threatening manner; instantly the Ichneumon slipped behind the reptile and with a wonderful spring leaped upon its head, which it instantly seized and crushed between its teeth.

Unfortunately, this first battle with a natural foe seemed to change the whole nature of my little pet, and, instead of contentedly eating his meat and rice and then going to sleep, rolled up in a ball, as formerly, he



MAMPALON; Borneo.

Color brownish gray. This animal is nearly related to the Ichneumons and resembles them in size and habits; there are slight differences in structure, the tail of the Mampalon being shorter and the legs somewhat longer than either the Ichneumon or Mongoos.

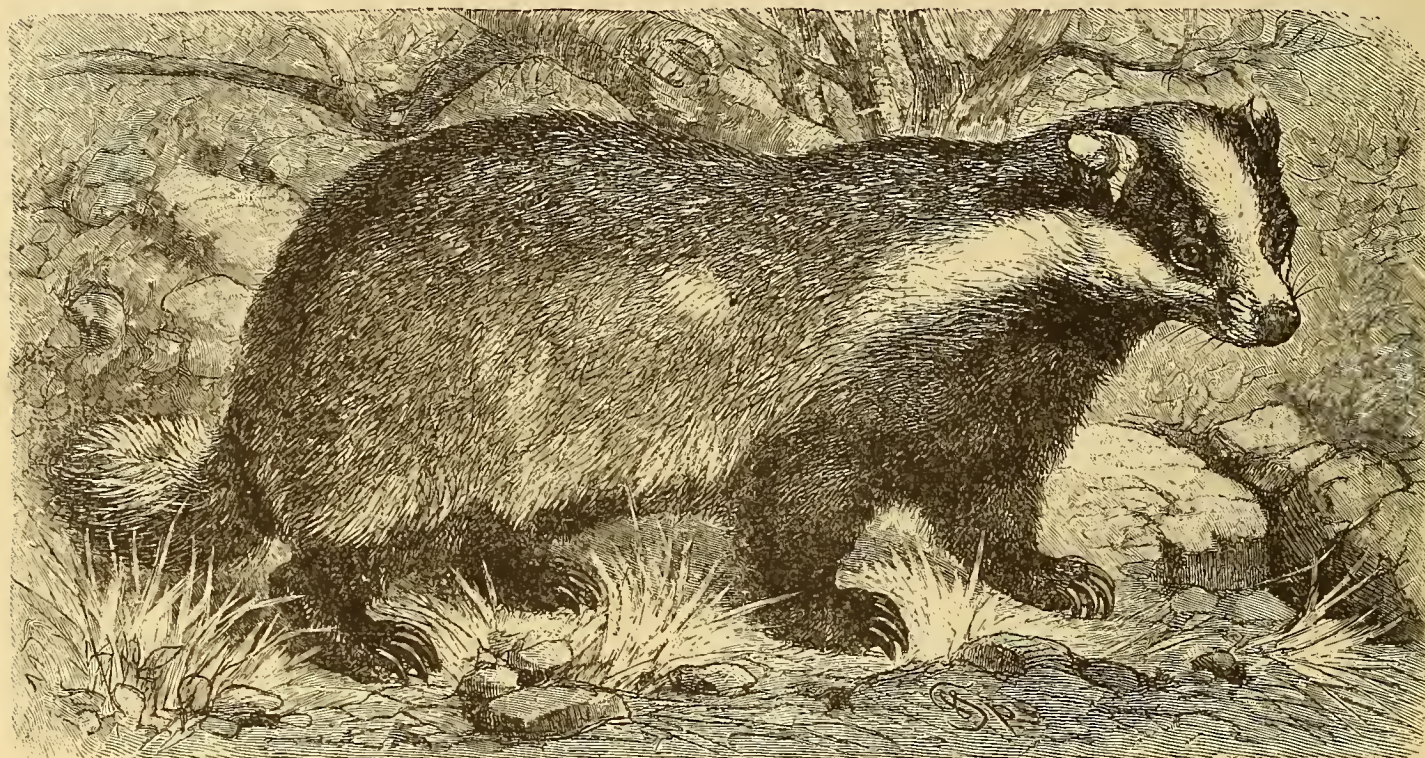
seemed now to have a constant thirst for blood, and became so destructive to the poultry that I was forced to get rid of him, which I did by presenting him to a travelling merchant who called one day to dispose of some of his wares.

The Badger is a strongly built and rather clumsy animal, with a long body, and short legs which are very well adapted for digging in the ground. It is generally found living in a quiet and lonely piece of woods, where it makes for itself a deep burrow, with a nice bed of leaves and hay at the bottom.

At the least sound that falls upon his listening ears, away goes the Badger into his deep hole, from which he does not put his head out again until sure that the coast is clear. These shy ways, together with his rusty coat of gray and quiet home in the woods, cause him to be but little known, although Badgers are to be found in many parts of our country.

They are not at all particular about what they eat; tender roots, berries, eggs and insects all form a part of the varied bill of fare.

Although the Badger is naturally a harmless animal, it can make a brave defence if attacked. Not only are its teeth long and sharp, but its



BADGER; North America and Europe.

Total length $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color of lower part of the body and legs, black; head, black with white bands upon the centre and sides; back, gray.

jaws are so formed, at the joints, that when the animal closes its mouth the jaws lock together, and can hardly be forced apart except at the will of the stubborn owner.

On account of the good fight it will make when attacked by a dog, the cruel sport of Badger-baiting used to be quite common. In this, a dog was set on to "draw" the Badger from a box, open at one end, and just large enough to easily admit the dog's body. Unless the attack was very skilfully made, and the Badger caught at once by the neck,

the dog would be badly torn by the sharp teeth, and the Badger would remain in possession of its secure quarters.

The long, curved claws of this animal, and its short, powerful legs, are very useful in digging; and that is work the Badger seems most fond of. Both the front and hind paws are used when it is making a burrow, and the earth is flung out quite a distance from the hole. Persons who have watched them while working say that they get rid of the loose earth, as their tunnel grows deeper, by backing slowly out, kicking all the while most vigorously with all four legs.

The Panda, or Wah, as it is called by the natives of the countries in which it is found, is not much larger than the domestic cat.

It lives among the trees, preferring those upon the banks of rivers and streams.

As its home is far up the mountain sides in Northern India and Thibet, where the winters are long and cold, its feet are covered with wool and its fur is thick and soft.

The Wolverine is a thick-set, strongly built animal, and, although really belonging to the weasel tribe, looks very much like a small bear. Its paws are also broad and flat, leaving tracks that are sometimes mistaken for those of Bruin.

The hardy men who hunt the valuable, fur-bearing animals of the far north have good reasons for hating this greedy, cunning beast. It will follow the path of the trapper for miles, and, after he has carefully set and baited his traps with bits of meat or fish, the Wolverine will steal the bait from every one.



PANDA ; Northern India.

Length from nose to tip of tail, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The fur of this beautiful little animal is of a reddish chestnut brown, the head fawn color, and the tail marked with dark rings. Its food chiefly consists of birds and their eggs, with smaller animals and insects which it finds in the trees where it lives.

If it happens that a beautiful sable, or marten, has been caught in the trap, the Wolverine likes that all the better and will eat the poor animal on the spot, leaving only a few bits of bone and skin to show the angry hunter what a valuable prize he has lost.

To make matters worse, the Wolverine seems to know almost as much about traps as the trapper himself, and it is almost impossible to make one that will not awaken the suspicion of the cunning animal, and therefore fail to capture it. A fur-hunter of the Hudson Bay country tells this story:—

A WOLVERINE ROBS THE TRAPS.

Early in the season a cunning old carcajou, (the trappers' name for the wolverine), discovered my marten route, on which I had set nearly one hundred and fifty traps. Now I was in the habit of going over the line once a week, but the pesky beast came oftener than I did, and not a skin could I get—nothing but broken traps and bits of fur to be seen, every time I went over the route.

At last I made up my mind to put a stop to his thieving, and to his life as well, cost what it might. So I made six strong drop traps. In each one a heavy log or stone was held up by a baited prop or trigger, set so as to let the weight fall as soon as the bait was touched. Besides these I set three steel traps, with powerful springs and toothed jaws strong enough to hold a bear.

For three weeks I baited and watched these traps, without the least sign of the carcajou trying one of them; and not only that, but the beast seemed to take more delight than ever in destroying my marten traps, eating the martens, and carrying off and hiding all the baits or martens it did not devour on the spot.

As my plans had proved a failure, I gave up setting any traps for a while, until one day, having killed a lynx and taken off its skin, the thought occurred to me that I could use the remains in a way to capture my enemy.

Now it is the custom of most trappers to leave the carcasses of fur-bearing animals, wherever they may happen to have been caught and skinned, so the carcajou would suspect nothing from this kind of a bait. I therefore dug a number of shallow holes in the ground beside the carcass, and in each one placed a steel trap, set with open jaws, ready to snap together upon the slightest touch of its flat, central trigger.

Taking some slender twigs and stems, I carefully laid them across



WOLVERINE, OR GLUTTON.

The Wolverine is found over the greater part of the northern regions both of America and Europe. It grows to a total length of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, 10 inches of which is the tail. In color it is reddish-brown above, with almost black face and paws.

the mouth of each pit, following these with a sprinkling of grass, earth, and dried leaves, until the holes were completely hidden and the surface of the ground looked as if it had never been disturbed. I also scattered freely about some blood and bits of flesh from the lynx, so as to make the place look as much like the scene of an ordinary skinning as possible.

The next morning I started bright and early to look at my new kind of trap. As soon as I got close to the place I heard some sounds which convinced me that at last the enemy had been obliged to surrender to my superior skill, and on reaching the spot where the carcass of the lynx was still lying, I found the mouth of one of the pits broken down and an old carcajou fastened by the hind leg to one of my steel-traps, which he had apparently struck fairly in his descent.

Snatching up a heavy stick, I gave the cunning old thief, that had robbed me so often, a few hearty whacks on the back of the head, stretching him out lifeless on the ground. Soon his own skin was added to my season's store of furs, and once more I could set my marten-traps without their being molested.



COMMON BLACK BEAR; North America.

Length, about 5 feet; weight, when full grown and in good condition, 400 lbs. Black Bears are found throughout our whole country; even in the thickly populated Eastern States they have survived the hunter by living in the densest woods.

THE BEAR.

There are many varieties of Bear, and the animal is found in almost all parts of the world, except in those countries in which it has been killed or driven away by man.

While all the Bears have a strong family likeness to each other, and show by their heavy, clumsy form, shaggy coat, and dog-like heads that they are near relations, yet there is a great difference in the size, color, and habits of the different varieties.

Thus, the great White or Polar Bear of the North is almost as much at home in the freezing waters of the Arctic Ocean as it is on land, and its food is entirely the flesh of seals and fish; while the Grizzly Bear of Western America, and the common Black Bear, which is found in almost every part of our country where there is a deep and lonely forest for its refuge, feed upon roots and berries as well as flesh.

All the Bears will eat meat when they can find it freshly killed, or are tempted by a fat, young pig or sheep, but, with the exception of the seal-hunting Polar Bear, it is seldom that they seek live creatures to kill and devour, as do the carnivorous beasts of prey.

Many of the Bears are tree climbers, and easily find their way to the topmost limbs by grasping the trunk with their strong paws as they



BROWN BEAR.

This species is widely known, being found in many parts of Europe, Norway, Russia, Japan, and in the northern portions of North America. It is nearly 6 feet long and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high at the shoulder.

ascend, and using their long, curved claws to keep from slipping. Although their claws are neither so much curved nor so sharp as those of the cat tribe, they can inflict terrible wounds upon an enemy.

Bears hibernate, or sleep, through the cold winter months. Having roamed through the forest all summer, and until late in the autumn, finding plenty of berries, soft roots and nuts, they are very fat by the

time snow begins to fall. Then is the time that Bruin begins to think of taking his long nap, and going back into the darkest and most unfrequented part of the woods, finds some cave or great hollow tree, into which he crawls, and there, nestled upon a bed of withered leaves and grass, sleeps away the long, cold winter.

For several months the Bear has nothing to eat, so he has great need of the fat he has gained in the summer, for during his long sleep this is



MALAYAN, OR SUN BEAR.

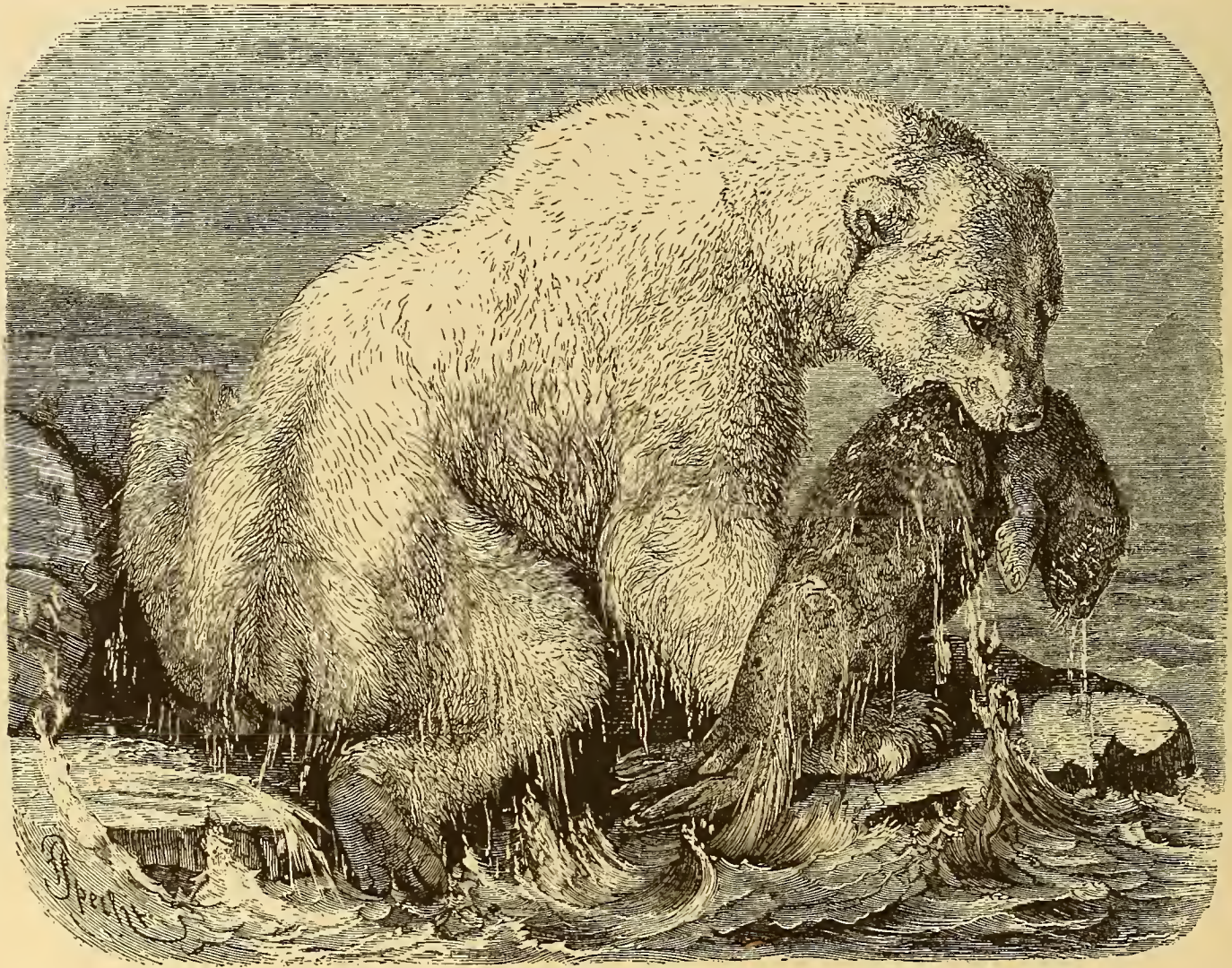
Malayan Peninsula and Borneo, Sumatra, and Java. Length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Color, black, with crescent shaped white mark on breast. Its claws, and also its tongue, are very long, both being used in searching holes in the trees for insects.

all that he has to live upon; the hunters say that two or three times during the winter, when perhaps, the icy winds blow particularly strong, Bruin wakes up, and comforts himself by sucking his paws for a while; then curling up, goes to sleep again.

But after a while spring comes around once more, and some bright, sunny day the Bear opens his eyes, stretches himself, and feels that the time has come to leave his winter home, and begin life again in the free, delightful forest.

So out he comes from his secure retreat, and looks hungrily around at the trees and bushes, which are just beginning to show signs of spring.

A thin and starved-looking beast is the Bear at this time of the year, with ragged, rusty coat and skin fully a size too large. No one would know him for the same fat and sleek-looking fellow of four months ago, and no wonder, for all this time he has been without food, and has



POLAR, OR WHITE BEAR; Arctic Regions.

This variety is the largest of the bear tribe and sometimes grows to an enormous size. Voyagers to the far North tell of specimens which have measured 8 feet in length and weighed 1500 lbs. The White Bear is never found south of the Arctic circle, unless carried against its will by drifting ice.

subsisted entirely upon the fat that was packed upon his round sides during the last summer's season of plenty.

The Bear at once begins an eager search for food; he is not particular as to its quality at this time. Young shoots and twigs, soft roots, which he digs out of the ground, together with snails, worms and beetles of every

description, are eaten with relish, until the warm sun ripens the welcome berries, fruits and nuts, and these finally restore to him the sleek and rounded form which has so shrunk during his long winter's fast.

The Grizzly Bear of the Rocky Mountains is a giant of its kind, and is certainly one of the most powerful and dangerous animals that man can attack. Woe to the unlucky hunter whose bullet does not quickly find a vital spot; the great beast is upon him before he can think of defence.



GRIZZLY BEAR. Carrying away Game Shot by a Hunter.

These bears sometimes carry away and conceal for a future feast, by burying in the ground, deer and antelope which have been killed by hunters.

Even the brave and experienced frontiersman thinks it no disgrace to run from an enraged Grizzly, and indeed considers himself very fortunate if mounted upon a fleet horse that can carry him out of danger. The Indians have always given great honor to the hunter who has attacked

and slain a Grizzly, and one of their most valued trophies is a necklace made of its great curved claws.



GRIZZLY BEAR AND CUBS; Northwestern America.

The Grizzly is the largest of the Bear family, excepting the Polar Bear. It is of brownish, grizzly-gray color, and when full grown has been known to measure over 7 feet in length, and to weigh 800 pounds. It is the most savage in its nature of any of the Bears.

FIGHT WITH A GRIZZLY.

A Rocky Mountain hunter who was shooting elk and antelope for their hides, in a wild and desolate part of the range, suddenly came upon a huge grizzly bear in the dark forest with which this region is overgrown. The brute was busily engaged in tearing up the ground, now covered with a thin mantle of snow, as winter was near. It was searching apparently for roots and nuts, which it ate with great relish.

Without considering the danger into which he was running, the foolhardy man hastily aimed his rifle at the unconscious animal, and pulled the trigger.

With a snort of rage the great beast turned quickly toward the bush,



BISON AND GRIZZLY. A Scene in the Rocky Mountains.

behind which the hunter was concealed, and seeing the smoke of the rifle, took it for a challenge from the enemy, and rushed forward to the attack. The hunter had no time for another shot; the bear was almost upon him; so he turned and ran with all his speed towards a clear space at the edge of the wood, where he had left his horse.

The underbrush was thick, and the snow had in some places drifted to a depth of nearly ten inches, making the footing terribly uncertain. The hunter could hear the panting of the angry beast drawing nearer and nearer, its great weight enabling it to crash through every obstacle with undiminished speed. Only a short distance now separated them.

But there was the clearing right ahead; the hunter leaped desperately over the snow-covered ground, when, just as his eyes were cheered by the sight of his horse, his foot caught in a hidden branch and he fell headlong in the snow. He had only time to scramble to his feet when the bear reached the spot, and raising itself upon its hind legs, quickly advanced to the attack.

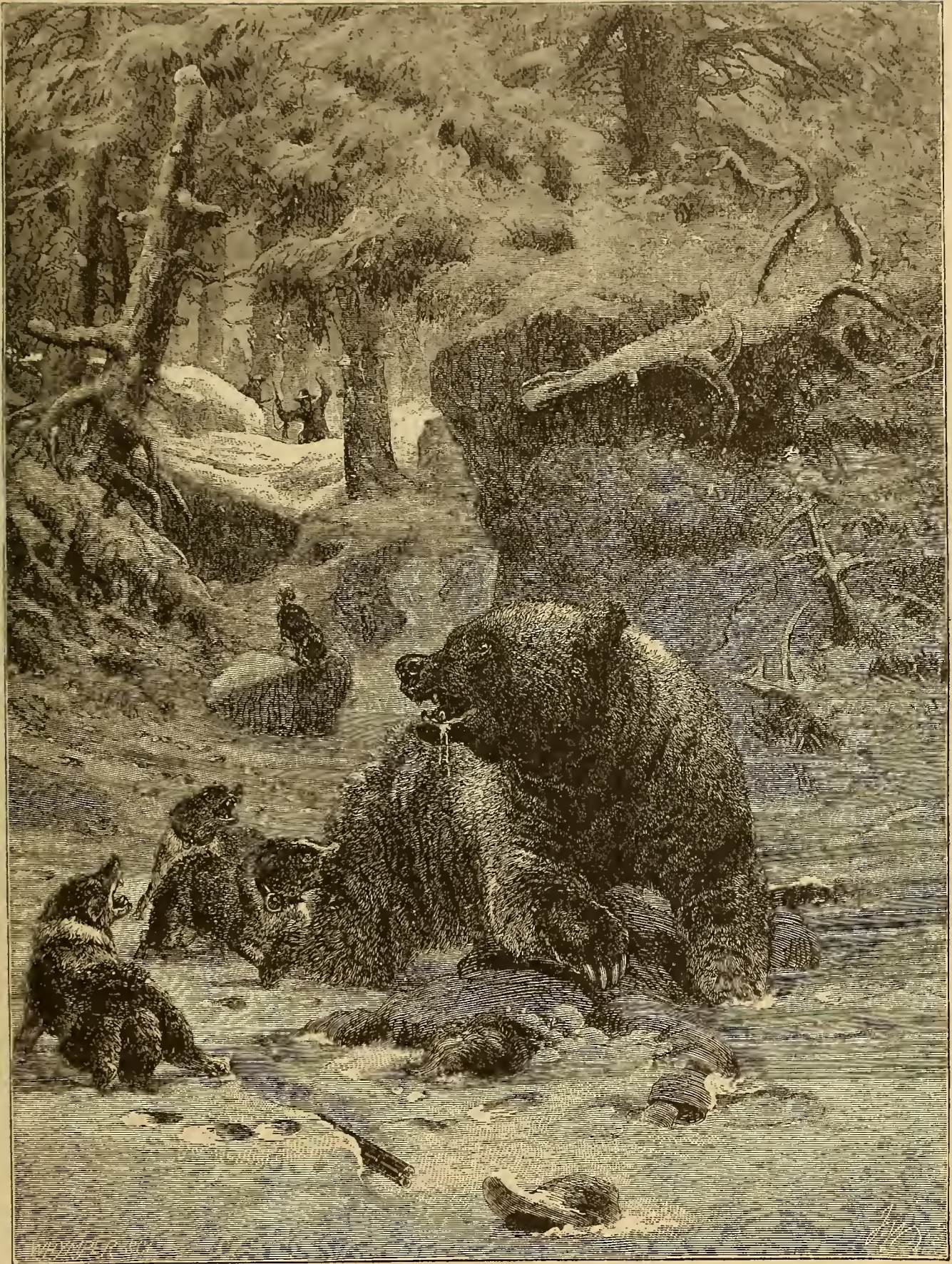
The hunter felt for his knife; fortunately it was at his side; he pulled it from the sheath and awaited the onset.

As soon as the bear came within reach he made a desperate lunge with the keen blade, but it was deftly parried, and the next moment the furious animal, with blood streaming from nose and mouth, the effect of the bullet which it carried in its side, struck its claws into the shoulder of its antagonist, and rolled with him on the ground.

The hunter managed to keep a firm hold on his knife and plunged it again and again in the body of the bear, while with teeth and claws it tore his flesh.

Almost blinded with blood, and faint from pain and exhaustion, the man at last fell helpless upon the ground, when suddenly the bear stopped in its attack and turned as if to listen. The bark of a dog was heard; in another moment several small hounds rushed to the scene of combat and made a fierce attack upon the bear, which soon was fully occupied in defending itself.

Two hunters followed the dogs. Seeing the prostrate man, they succeeded in drawing the bear away from the spot and quickly despatched it with two well aimed rifle shots, then hastening to the apparently lifeless form of the wounded hunter, they raised him from the snow. What a terrible sight met their eyes; his flesh was so mangled, and his arms, neck and face so gashed and cut that he could scarcely be recognized.



HELP COMES JUST IN TIME.

The men tore their shirts into strips, bound up the terrible wounds as well as they could, and carried the unfortunate hunter back to camp, where for many days he lay between life and death.

He finally recovered, thanks to a strong constitution and to the pure bracing air of that mountain region, but will carry, for the remainder of his life, the marks of his fearful encounter.

Another story of adventure with Grizzly Bears in the wild, mountain region of California, is told as follows:—

THE MINERS' BATTLE WITH THE GRIZZLIES.

It was late in the fall on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains, when three starving men crawled through a thick growth of bush, and suddenly found themselves facing several monstrous grizzly bears.

Eagerly looking for signs of gold, the men, who were California miners, had allowed their provisions to become exhausted, and for two days they had been without food. Made desperate by hunger, they determined to attack the ferocious animals, and accordingly separated, each taking a different path.

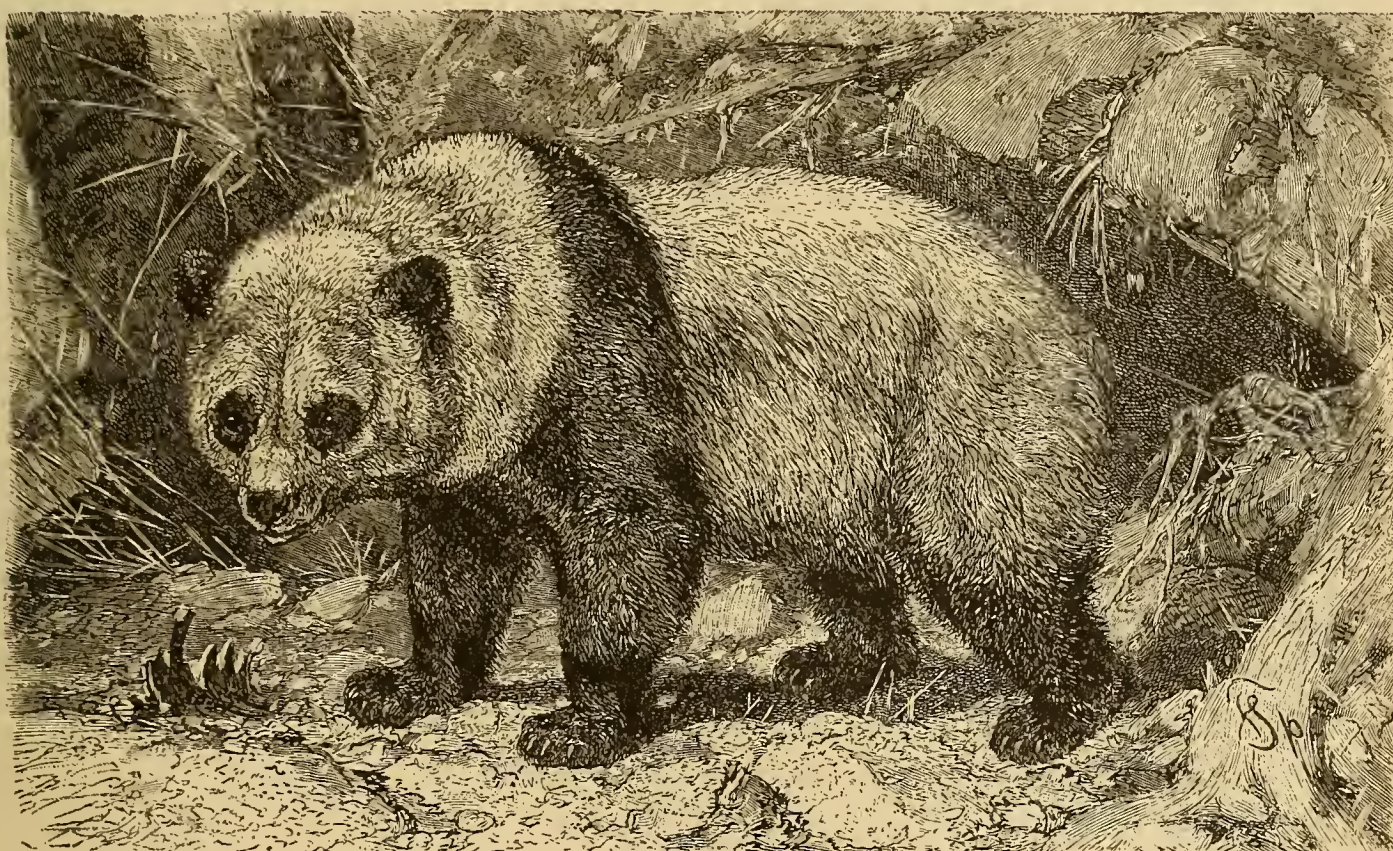
Soon there was the sound of shots, and one of the bears fell, apparently dead, while another, but slightly wounded, ran towards one of the three men, who was a long way off from his companions, as they had thought it better to attack the bears from different sides. Trying to re-charge his muzzle-loading gun, the hunter found himself unable to ram the ball down on the powder, and while in this defenceless state, the grizzly rushed towards him.

The situation was desperate, but running back a few yards he came to a small tree, which he succeeded in climbing. Once in the branches, he used his gun to beat the bear off as it attacked the tree with the intention of shaking him out.

While he was thus engaged in fighting off his assailant, he saw, to his horror, the other bear, which he supposed had been killed, rise and rush toward him. No blows that he could inflict on the wounded animal would check its fury; at the first spring it made, the tree broke and both the bears jumped at him. He gained his feet and made with all speed down the mountain, where another small tree stood, about thirty yards away. He reached this tree with the wounded bear at his heels, and, seizing the trunk, swung his body around so as to give the bear room to pass him, which it did, plunging headlong down the mountain for about twenty yards.

Before the hunter could, with his failing strength swing himself into the tree, the second bear bounded up and seized his right ankle. By this time the wounded bear returned, and as he fell, snapped at his face. A sudden movement saved him from the glittering teeth, but the bear turned and seized his left shoulder.

Then commenced a terrific struggle. The maddened animals tugged in opposite directions at the unfortunate man's ankle and shoulder, so that he was in imminent danger of being torn to pieces. He fought as best he could, but this seemed only to intensify the rage of the savage brutes.



SYRIAN BEAR. This species is found in the Mountains of Palestine.

Color yellowish-brown, becoming nearly white with advancing years. Length about 5 feet.

The hunter was almost fainting with pain, when the bear which had been previously wounded dropped lifeless by his side. Upon seeing this the other bear let go its hold. The man sank back on the ground, and, knowing it to be his only chance of escape, lay perfectly quiet, as though dead, hardly daring to breathe.

The grizzly stood majestically over him, watching for the slightest movement, and snarling with rage. The pain that racked the wounded hunter's frame was frightful, and at the risk of his life he made an effort

to assume an easier position. At the first movement the grizzly, roaring furiously, rushed forward. It shoved its nose close to his face and snuffed at him, but the hunter was again motionless, and the bear, raising its head, gave vent to unearthly screams.

Knowing that his life depended on it, the man remained motionless; after watching him for a few minutes the bear turned away and trotted up the ravine.

When the hunter attempted to rise, he found that his right hip was dislocated; his left shoulder chewed to the bone, while his clothing had been stripped from his body and his flesh torn in a hundred places. Inch by inch he painfully dragged himself from the spot until his companions found him and carried him to the camp.

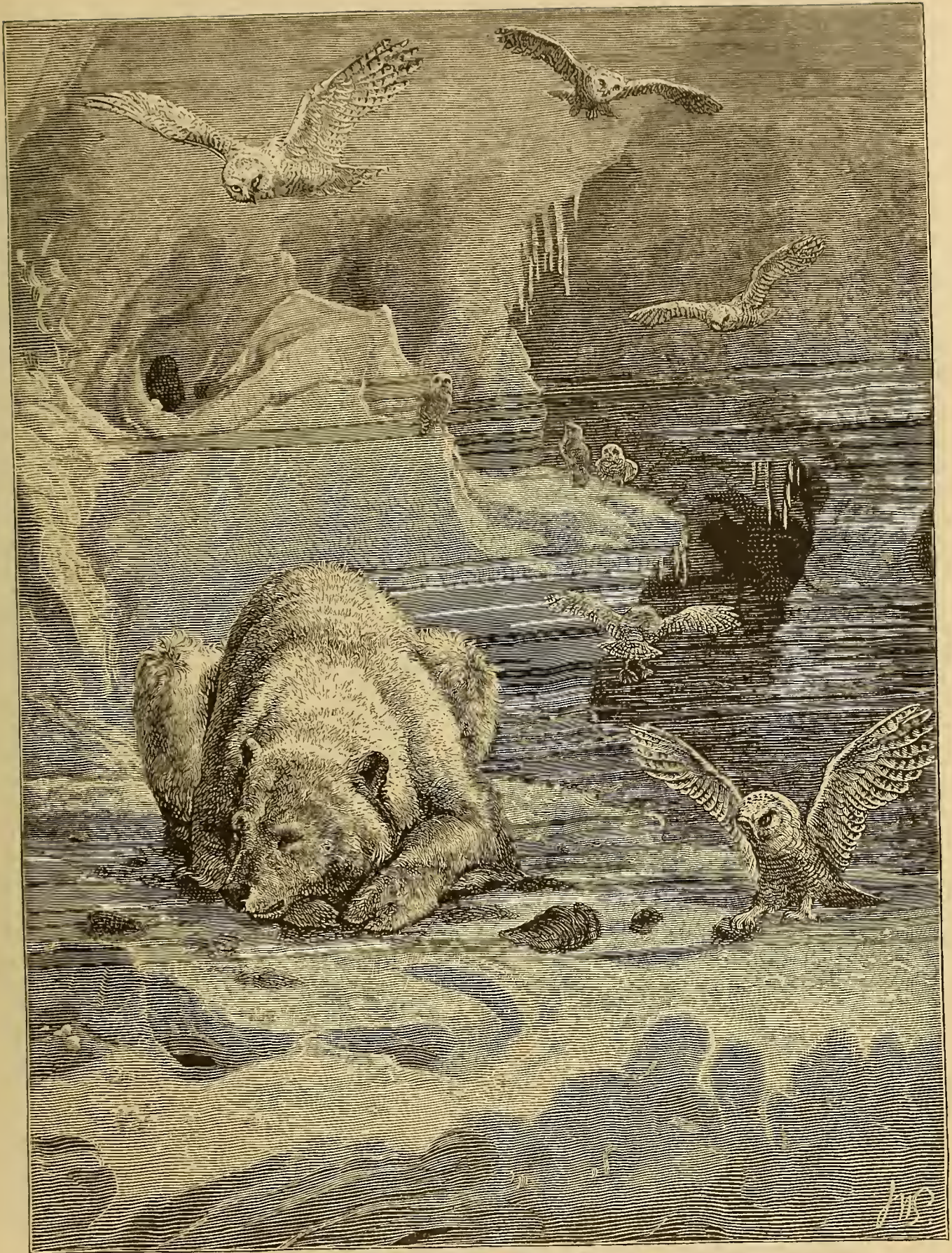
Here they remained, living upon the meat of the dead bear. After several days had passed, aid was obtained for the wounded man and he was able to regain his home. He, however, remained a cripple for life, and the many injuries he had received in the desperate encounter were eventually the cause of his death.

THE BEAR OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS.

The White, or Polar Bear grows to an enormous size. A large one was killed, and carefully weighed and measured by some Arctic voyagers during a recent exploring expedition. This immense Bear was so heavy that it had to be hoisted on the deck of the ship with block and tackle. It measured eight feet in length and weighed fifteen hundred pounds, or as much as a large ox.

In appearance, the Polar Bear differs from all the rest of his tribe; being of creamy white color; the head is somewhat flattened, the neck long, and the paws very large and broad. Although so big and heavy, these Bears can run and swim very swiftly, and show great cunning in getting near enough to the seals to clutch them in their strong paws.

Seals often lie upon the ice near a hole, or opening into which they can jump upon the slightest sign of danger. The Bear sees the seal from a long distance, and carefully lays his plans to catch it. By diving and swimming he gets quite near without being seen; then making a deep dive and going a long way under the ice, the Bear rises out of the very hole beside which the poor seal is lying, thus cutting off its way of escape, and easily capturing it.



AN ARCTIC SCENE.

It is said that the Polar Bear will not harm a man who has the presence of mind to pretend to be dead. An old Esquimau, who had been almost scalped by a White Bear, tells this story:—

A BLOW FROM A WHITE BEAR'S PAW.

One day while traveling by myself over the ice, I espied a bear, and putting fresh powder in the pan (he had an old-fashioned flint-lock gun), I ran toward him. The bear also ran, but I got close enough to him to fire, and the bear dropped down dead, as I thought.

A-ha! Mr. Bear, I have you this time, said I, and without reloading—truly, I was a fool—I walked up and struck him on the head with the butt of my gun.

But instead of being dead he was only stunned, and my attack seemed to put life in him. Getting up he struck me a blow on the head to pay me back. His sharp claws tore the scalp down over my face, and my eyes were filled with blood; I fell down flat on the ice, and said, "Go away, Bear, you have killed me!" I then lay perfectly quiet. The bear, after smelling around me, ran away, and I lay still for a long time. Then, cleaning the blood from my face, I looked about carefully and saw the bear a good way off. I got up and managed to walk to my tent, but, as you see, he has marked me for life.

The Polar Bear is sometimes hunted with dogs by the Esquimau. As soon as the tracks are discovered on the snow the dogs are set upon the trail, and drag the hunter swiftly after them upon his sledge.

Not a sound is heard as they dash over the ice and snow, for the game must not be alarmed. As they turn the corner of some rocky headland, or mass of ice, the bear is perhaps seen just ahead. The dogs spring forward with wild wolfish yells, the hunter encouraging them by cries of "Nannook! Nannook!" which is the Esquimau's name for Bear. Loosening his wild steeds from their traces the fight begins. The dogs surround their prey, and while busy defending itself from their fierce attack the hunter steals up and gives it a death-blow with his spear. If there are two hunters, the Bear is killed easily, for one makes a motion as if to thrust his spear into the right side, and, as the animal turns with its paws towards the threatened attack, the left is unprotected and receives the death-blow. Even if there is only one hunter he boldly assails the fierce brute and generally succeeds in killing it.



WHITE BEAR AND WALRUS.



RACCOON: North America.

Length of body 2 feet; tail 10 inches. Color gray, with dark bands across the face and upon the tail.

THE RACCOON.

The Raccoon is found throughout the whole of the United States, and in many parts of Canada.

It is a shy little animal, and can seldom be seen in the daytime, as it then lies snugly curled up and asleep in some hollow tree. But when the sun disappears, and the woods become dark and silent, then the 'coon wakes up, and climbing nimbly down from its lofty perch, begins to hunt for something to eat.

Berries and acorns, wild grapes, birds and their eggs, frogs, field mice, and fish when it can get them, form the 'coon's varied bill of fare. It is also quite ready to steal a chicken or two, whenever it can get into

**COATI-MONDI; South America.**

Length of body 20 inches; tail 18 inches. Color reddish brown, with dark rings and stripes. The legs are black, and there is considerable white upon the face and jaws. Like the Raccoon, the Coati-mondi is a good climber and feeds upon fruit, insects, small birds, etc. Its snout is its most curious feature, being very long, and so flexible that the animal can turn it about in every direction.

the farmer's hen-roost; and in the autumn, when the corn is ripening, many a good roasting ear will be missing from the stalk if there is a family of 'Coons in the woods near by. At this time they are apt to be very fat, and are said to make a good roast for the table.

'Coon hunting is a sport that is known this whole country over, and many a farmer's boy has raced through the dark forest, fallen over roots and stumps, and dodged under overhanging boughs while trying to keep up with the hounds which were tracking the 'Coon to its hiding place.

As soon as the dogs have succeeded in following the game to the tree in which it has taken refuge, they leap about its base, making the woods echo with their sharp barks. The hunters hear the uproar and rush forward,



CACA-MIXTLI (Mexican Raccoon, or Raccoon Fox); Texas and Northern Mexico.

Color light dun, with tail ringed. Length of body about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail the same. It resembles the common Raccoon in its habits, living in the trees and making a nest in their holes and hollows. It is sometimes tamed, and made a pet of by the settlers and miners of the wild regions in which it is found.

through brush and briar and over fallen logs, to the place where all this disturbance is taking place, and peer upward through the darkness in the hope of seeing a furry ball far up on a great limb.

There he is! cries some sharp-sighted young hunter, and sure enough, on a topmost bough is seen a round object plainly outlined against the faint light of the midnight sky. A shot from a well-aimed gun brings a plump form tumbling down through the branches, and the 'Coon lands with a thump on the ground in the midst of the dogs, which soon shake the life out of its body, if any be left after the shot and fall.

If uninjured, however, a full-grown Raccoon can make a strong fight. Its teeth are long and sharp, and the creature is very quick and active. A large one will give two good dogs all they can attend to for several minutes.

On very dark, or cloudy nights, when there is not light enough in the sky to see the 'Coon as he rests upon his lofty perch, the hunters build a roaring fire near the foot of the tree, and when its bright blaze has lighted up the spreading branches the game is easily discovered.

The Raccoon is a very clean animal, and always keeps its thick fur

smooth and glossy, frequently going to the banks of springs or brooks to dabble in the stream.

When kept in captivity, a tank of fresh water should always be placed where the Raccoon can reach it, for it has a curious habit of washing almost every particle of food it gets, before eating it. Nuts or apples or bits of bread, and especially meat, are grasped in the hand-like paw and doused up and down in the water until thoroughly soaked.

If caught when young and kindly treated, the Raccoon makes an interesting, though rather mischievous, pet, and its cunning ways afford a great deal of amusement.

A NEW WAY TO HUNT RACCOONS.

A farmer tells the following story about a 'Coon hunt:—

My wife came in one morning from feeding the poultry, and said that a fine turkey which we had been fattening for Thanksgiving day was missing.

I at once went out, and after looking about carefully, found the track of an unusually large 'Coon in the dust near the chicken-roost.

Going back to the house, I got my rifle and an axe and then, calling Rover, the fox hound, started on the hunt.

The hound found the scent readily, and uttering now and again his loud, musical bay, followed the trail right up to a large chestnut tree which stood near the edge of my cornfield. The tree was so large that I did not care to cut it down. So dropping my gun and axe, I climbed half way to the top, and there, as I had expected, found a hole in the forks, and looking in saw the turkey thief snugly curled up at the bottom.

Not caring to risk my hand near his teeth, I thought of another plan.



COMMON OPOSSUM; North America.
Length of body 20 inches, tail 12 inches; color, gray.

Going back to the house I got a half-filled powder can, and attaching a slow-burning fuse, climbed the tree again. After lighting the fuse, I lowered the can down into the hole, and quickly descended to the ground. Pretty soon a great sputtering showed that the fuse was doing its work, and immediately afterward I heard Mr. 'Coon scrambling up the hollow. Just as his head appeared in the opening, Bang! went my blast, and amid a shower of smoke and rotten wood, the furry rascal could be seen leaping to the ground. He alighted none the worse, apparently, for being blown out of house and home in such a violent manner, and gave Rover a hard battle before he was overcome.

THE OPOSSUM.

There is another little animal which shares with the Raccoon the doubtful honor of being hunted by the country boys of America; it is the Opossum, or 'Possum, as it is more commonly called.

Although living in the trees, and also feeding upon nuts, fruit, insects, and small birds, it is a far different animal from the Raccoon. It belongs to a distinct and very ancient family called the Marsupial, of which the Opossums are the single species living in America. Australia is the only other country in which the Marsupials are found, the Kangaroo being of this order, and the largest of its tribe.

The peculiarity of these animals is that the young are carried by their mother in a little pouch. This pouch is a kind of pocket of skin, which the mother Opossums have beneath their bodies on purpose to carry their little ones in. The baby 'Possums spend the first five weeks of their lives in this safe and comfortable place; and although they go out after that time it is fully two months before they give up running back to it when frightened or hungry.

The Opossum uses its long, rat-like tail in climbing, twisting it round a limb and holding fast by one, or both hind legs. It can often be seen thus hanging suspended over some wild grape vine, or nest full of eggs. But it is during the night time that the Opossum generally moves about and feeds. Then they prowl through the woods, hunting for nuts and berries, also catching insects, birds, field mice, or paying a visit to the farmer's hen-coop, where the little chicks make a dainty meal.

Opossums are hearty eaters and grow very fat in the autumn; they are then often hunted at night with dogs. When shaken from its perch upon the limb of a tree the little creature usually looks very fierce, giving



GIANT KANGAROO (Australia).

The largest of the Kangaroos: when standing erect, supported upon the lower parts of its hind legs and tail, it measures more than 6 feet in height. Color, yellowish-brown.

snarls and growls, and trying to bite; but sometimes it pretends to be dead, and will then submit to being thrown roughly about, without showing the least sign of life. From this trick comes the common saying,—“Playing ‘Possum.”

It is exceedingly hard to kill; frequently, even after having been shot or struck a hard blow upon the head with a heavy club, it will get on its feet again and run off into the bushes. The flesh of the Opossum, when cooked, tastes a good deal like that of a young pig.

THE KANGAROO.

The Kangaroo is the largest of the pouch bearers, and is found only in Australia and the islands near by.

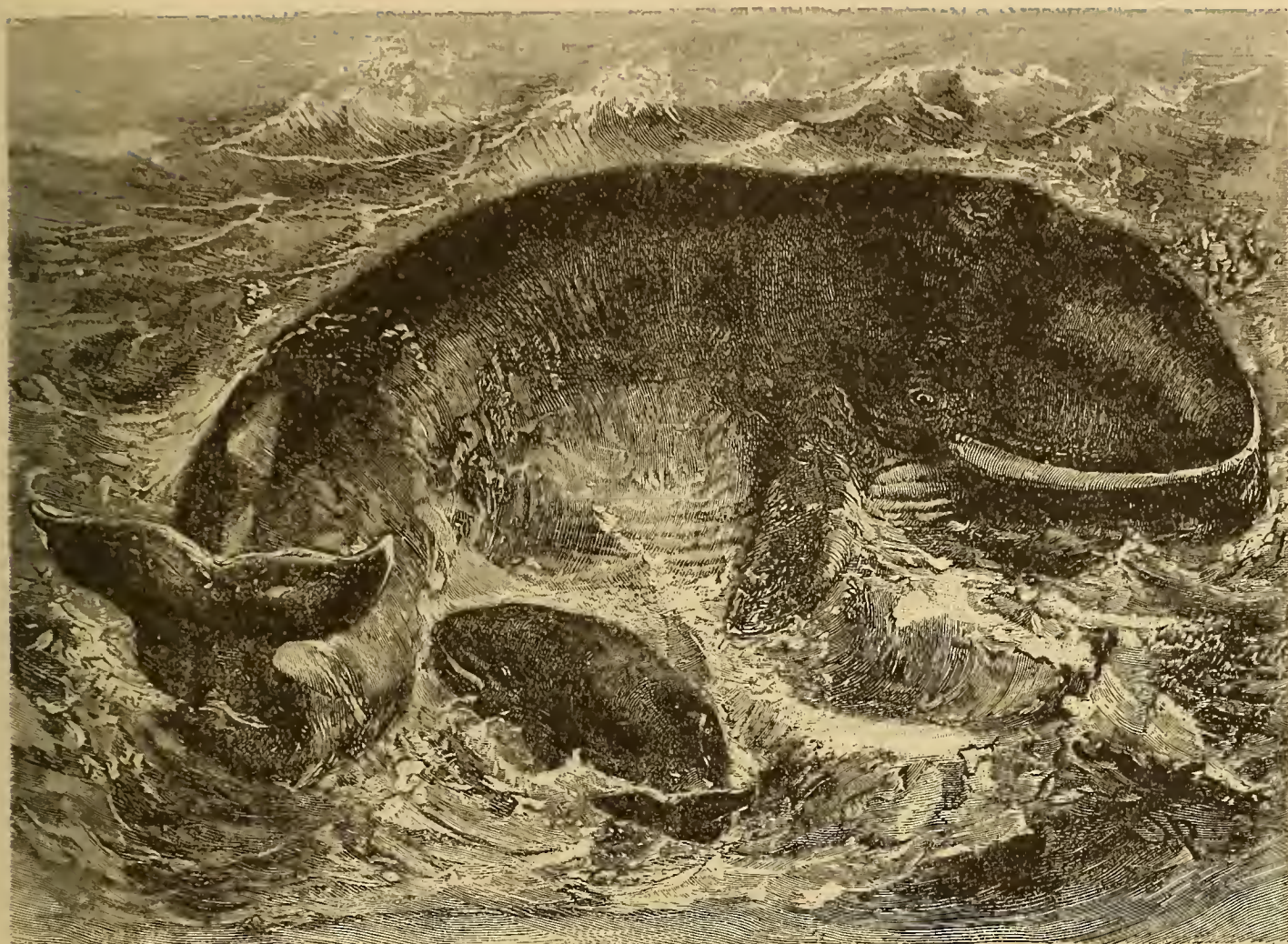


THE LEAP.

It is certainly one of the strangest looking animals in the world. Instead of walking upon the ground, as most four-footed creatures do, it goes along by a succession of jumps and bounds, using only the hind legs, and seldom touching the earth with its fore-feet. To fit it for this strange way of moving, nature has provided the Kangaroo

with tremendously long and strong hind legs. So muscular and large of bone are these important members, that they look as if intended rather for some big deer or antelope than their small-headed, light-bodied owner.

Kangaroos are very timid animals, and upon the least sign of danger go bounding away, clearing fifteen and twenty feet at every jump. Sportsmen use horses and hounds; the frightened Kangaroo giving both dogs and men a good chase. When overtaken it is by no means defenseless, but will wound, and sometimes even kill, the dogs by blows from its muscular hind legs, the feet being armed with sharp claws.



FIN-BACK WHALE, OR RORQUAL, AND YOUNG; Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

The largest whales are of this species, and among these the variety called the "Sulphur Bottom" attains the greatest size; the capture of one is recorded which measured 100 feet in length. The quantity of oil and whalebone yielded by Fin-Back Whales is very limited. They are also much more active and dangerous to attack than either the Sperm, or Right, Whales; therefore they have been but little hunted, and are quite numerous.

SEA ANIMALS.

Far out in the ocean, where great waves toss the big ships about as if they were little boats, the Whale can be found sporting in the stormy waters. But though its home is in the sea, and although it can dive down into its dark depths, yet it must come up again to get air, for the Whale is not a fish, but an animal, and if it were kept under water for too long a time it would drown.

The nostrils of the Whale, or "blow-holes," as they are called, are placed on the top of the head. When it comes to the surface to breathe, it blows out, with much force, the exhausted air contained in its lungs, so

that the water which has settled in the upper part of the blow-hole, together with the surrounding spray and vapor, is thrown upward to a considerable height, sometimes rising twenty feet. This is the sign the hardy whale hunter looks for to tell him of the presence of his prey, and the shout from aloft, "There she blows!" is a signal to lower the boats and be off.

The tail of this great sea monster is enormously powerful, and drives it through the water with great speed. As the Whale is continually rising and descending, and does not swim constantly upon a level course, as do many of the fishes, its tail is set horizontally, so that a downward or upward blow will encounter the greatest pressure, and thus enable the animal to rapidly sink or rise.

All Whales are not alike; there are a number of varieties which not only differ in size, appearance, and habits, but occupy different parts of the ocean. There are two kinds which are especially sought by whalers. The Arctic, or Right Whale, is the most useful of these. Not only does its fat yield a great quantity of superior oil, but the roof of its huge, cavernous mouth is plated with the valuable whalebone; the outward ends of this curious substance are split into a thick fringe, which lines the sides of the mouth, and serves as a strainer to sift out little shrimps and crabs from the great volume of water which the Whale takes into its jaws when feeding;—for enormous though this animal is, often measuring sixty feet in length, its food consists entirely of these small sea creatures. The Right Whale has no teeth, and, its gullet being but a few inches in diameter, it cannot swallow large substances.

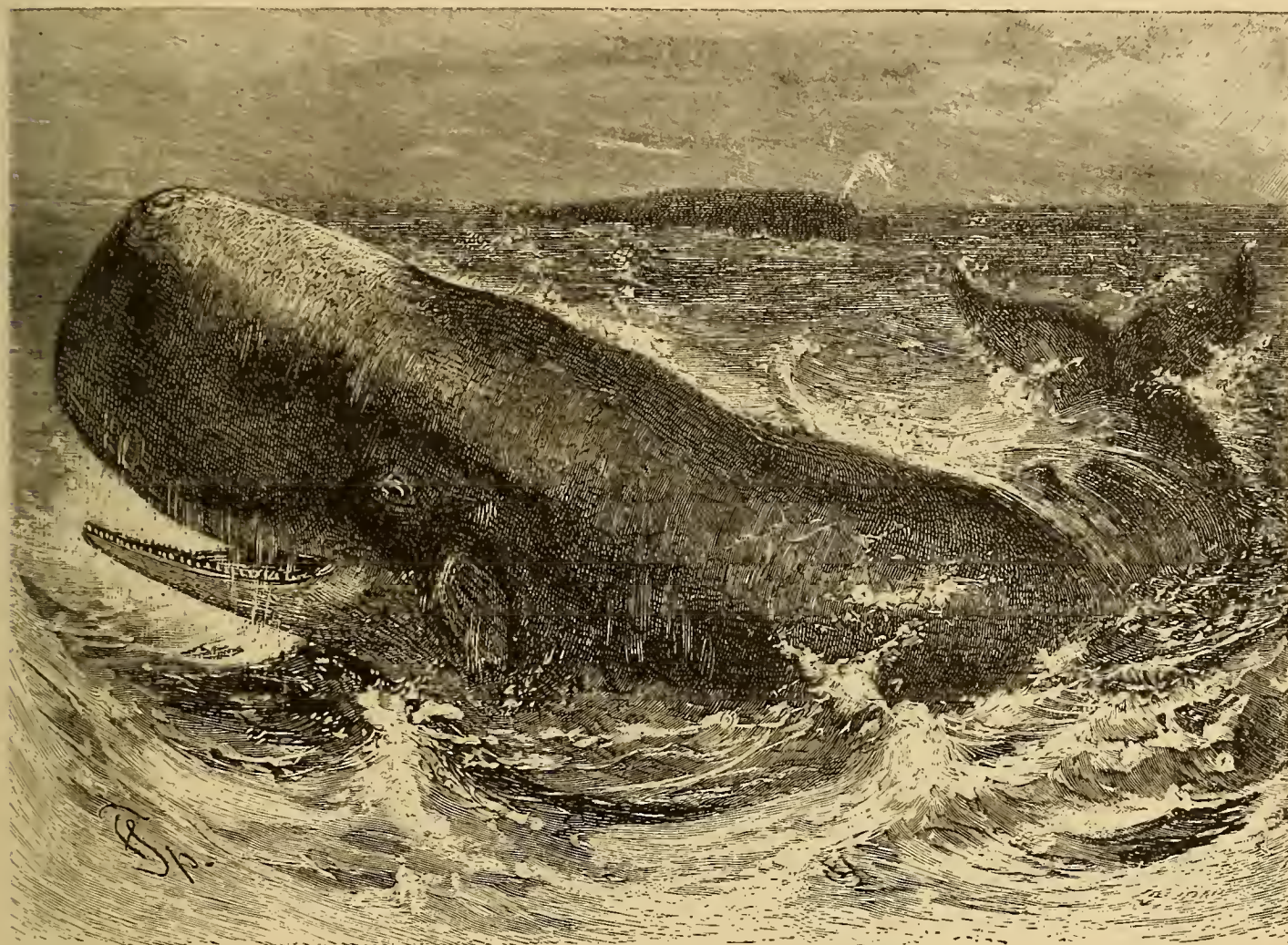
The Sperm Whale differs considerably from the Right, or Arctic variety. The head is enormous, being equal to about one-third of its total length. The mouth contains no whalebone, but the lower jaw is armed with from forty to fifty sharp teeth. Sperm Whales eat various kinds of squid and cuttle fish, also other fish, which sometimes are of considerable size. This Whale also yields an extremely valuable oil, as well as the waxy substance called spermaceti, once so extensively used for candles. It is one of the largest of the Whale tribe; an old bull, as the whalers call a full-grown male, measuring from seventy to eighty feet in length.

THE WHALE AND ITS CAPTORS.

In the pursuit of no other animal does man brave so many dangers, or show such courage and hardihood, as when he attacks the gigantic Whale amid the waves of its native ocean.

Not only does he risk destruction from the great animal he attacks, but the storms and icebergs of the extreme north, to which he penetrates, are even more to be feared, and many a ship's crew has frozen or starved, in drifting boats, or on the bleak and wind-swept shores of the Arctic ocean, after their vessel has been crushed like an egg-shell in the ice-pack.

In former days, Nantucket, and New Bedford, Massachusetts, were the



SPERM WHALE.

This species inhabits all the oceans, from the Polar to the Antarctic. It is much thinned in numbers, however, from its pursuit by whalers during past years, and is not often found in the Atlantic ocean. Length of full grown male 70 to 80 feet.

home ports of a great fleet of whaling vessels. These sailed the world over, in voyages lasting sometimes two years or more, and brought back to their New England owners great cargoes of oil and whalebone.

A growing scarcity of Whales (owing to the constant pursuit of them), and the discovery of petroleum, have long since taken away from the industry its former importance; but many whaling vessels yet sail the seas, and many hardy whale-hunters still follow their dangerous calling.

WHALE-BOATS.

Every whaling ship carries eight or ten strongly built boats; these hang from supports projecting over the water, and each contains oars, harpoons, lines, provisions, water, and everything necessary for the capture of the Whale, and for the support of the men during an absence from the ship that may last many hours.



SEA LION ; North Pacific, from Behring's Strait to California and Japan.

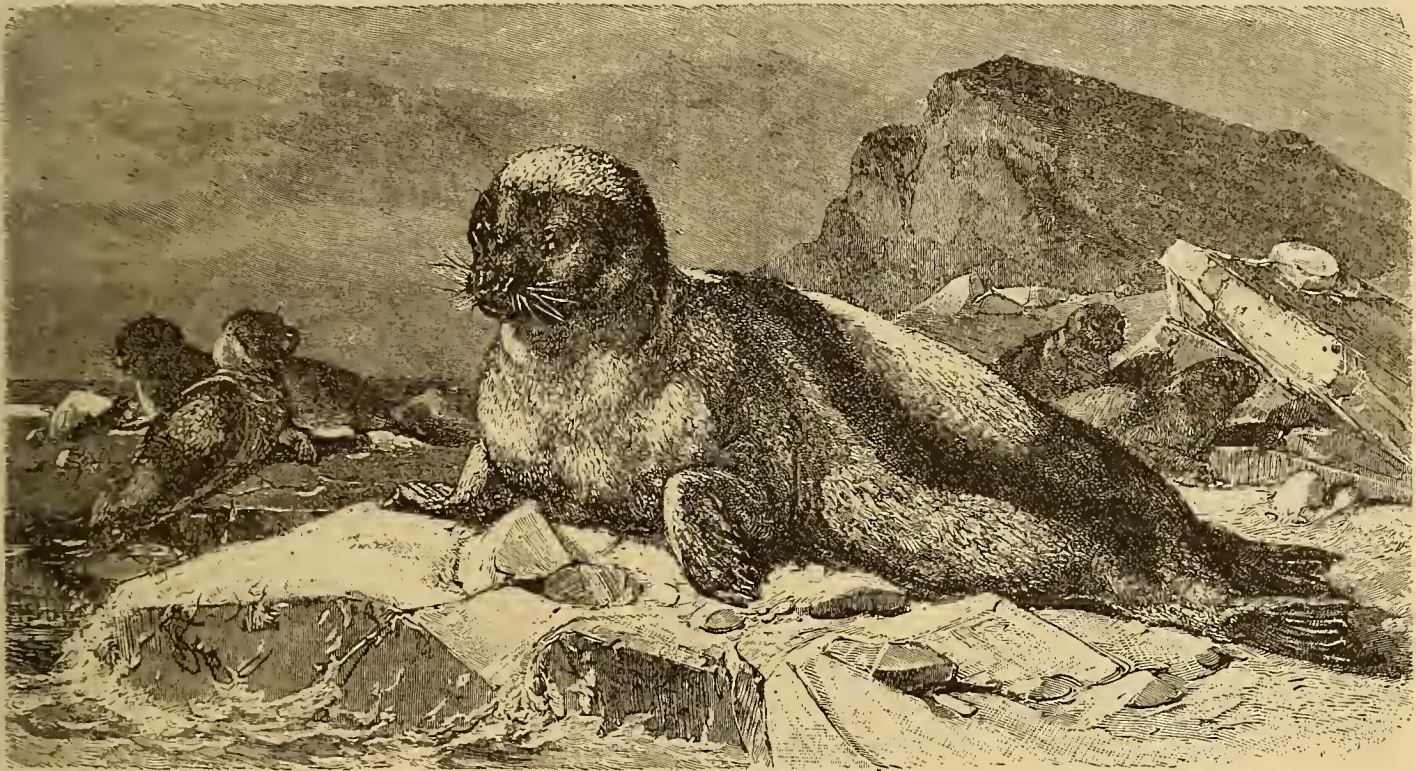
Length of a full-grown male 13 to 14 feet; girth at chest 7 to 9 feet; weight 1000 lbs. Color light reddish-brown. Although large and powerful it is a timid animal and flies from man. Sea Lions are quite frequently seen upon the rocky islands of the Northern California coast.

Let us suppose that a school of Whales, or a single one of the great monsters, has been sighted by the lookout man, always stationed at the top of the mast. "There she blows," is the cry from above, and then follows a scene of excitement. The watch on deck rush to the boats to which they belong, while the sleepers, or watch below, tumble out of their berths.

The captain directs the particular boat to be lowered, and into her the

boat-steerer and crew soon take their places. "Lower away" is the next command, and as the falls, or supporting ropes, slacken out, the boat touches the water, her crew are ready at their oars, and with a strong, steady pull the vessel is left behind.

When squarely in the water, if the wind allows, sail is set on the boat. The boat-steerer, who is the officer in charge, steers with an oar which rests in the gunwale alongside of the stern-post, both ends of a whale-boat being sharp.



HARP, OR GREENLAND SEAL.

Length 5 feet, color gray and black. Seals of this species are very numerous in the Arctic regions. Thousands of them can be seen in the Spring, upon the floating ice near Newfoundland and Labrador; vast numbers are killed yearly for their hides and blubber.

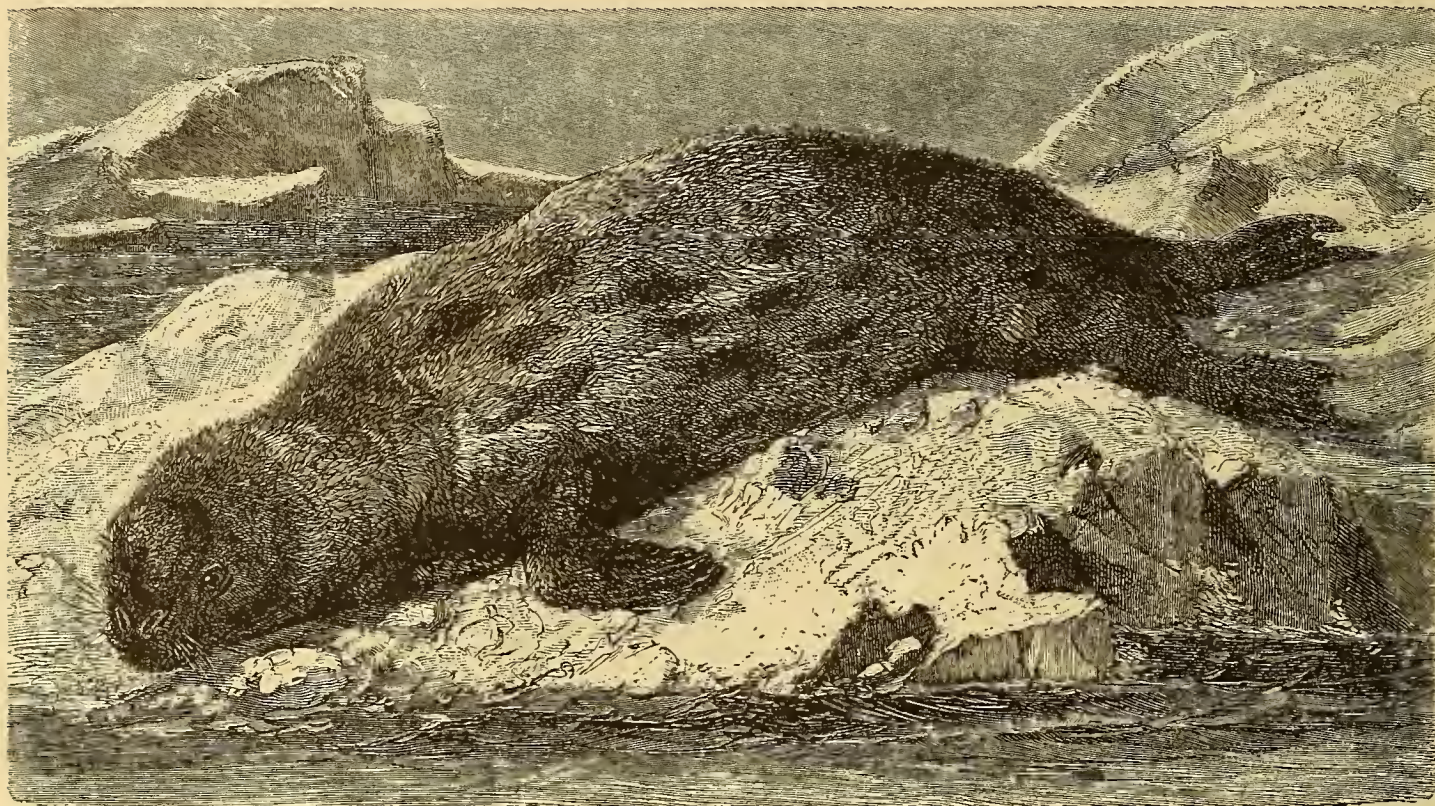
HARPOONS AND DARTING-GUNS.

Steadily and noiselessly the boat approaches the great beast, the men's nerves strung to a high degree of tension. Not a whisper can be heard, nor any sound save the drip of water from the oars. The Whale, as if resting or playing, as he often does amid the ice in the spring of the year, emits a soft yet sonorous breathing, resembling the drawn-out sighing of a forest of trees during a wind storm. By this time the boat is in such a position that the Whale can be reached with a harpoon.

In the old days of whaling, the harpoon was simply a barbed spear, some six or eight feet long, to which the line was fastened. The harpooner

hurled this weapon by hand, and sunk its point into the back of the floating monster by strength of arm alone. Although this is still largely used by boat-crews for first fastening to the Whale, there have been invented various bomb-lances and harpoon-guns to which the explosive power of gunpowder gives more deadly force.

Balancing the heavy, barbed weapon in his hand the harpooner now stands ready; he sees that the line attached to his iron is clear of kinks



CRESTED SEAL.

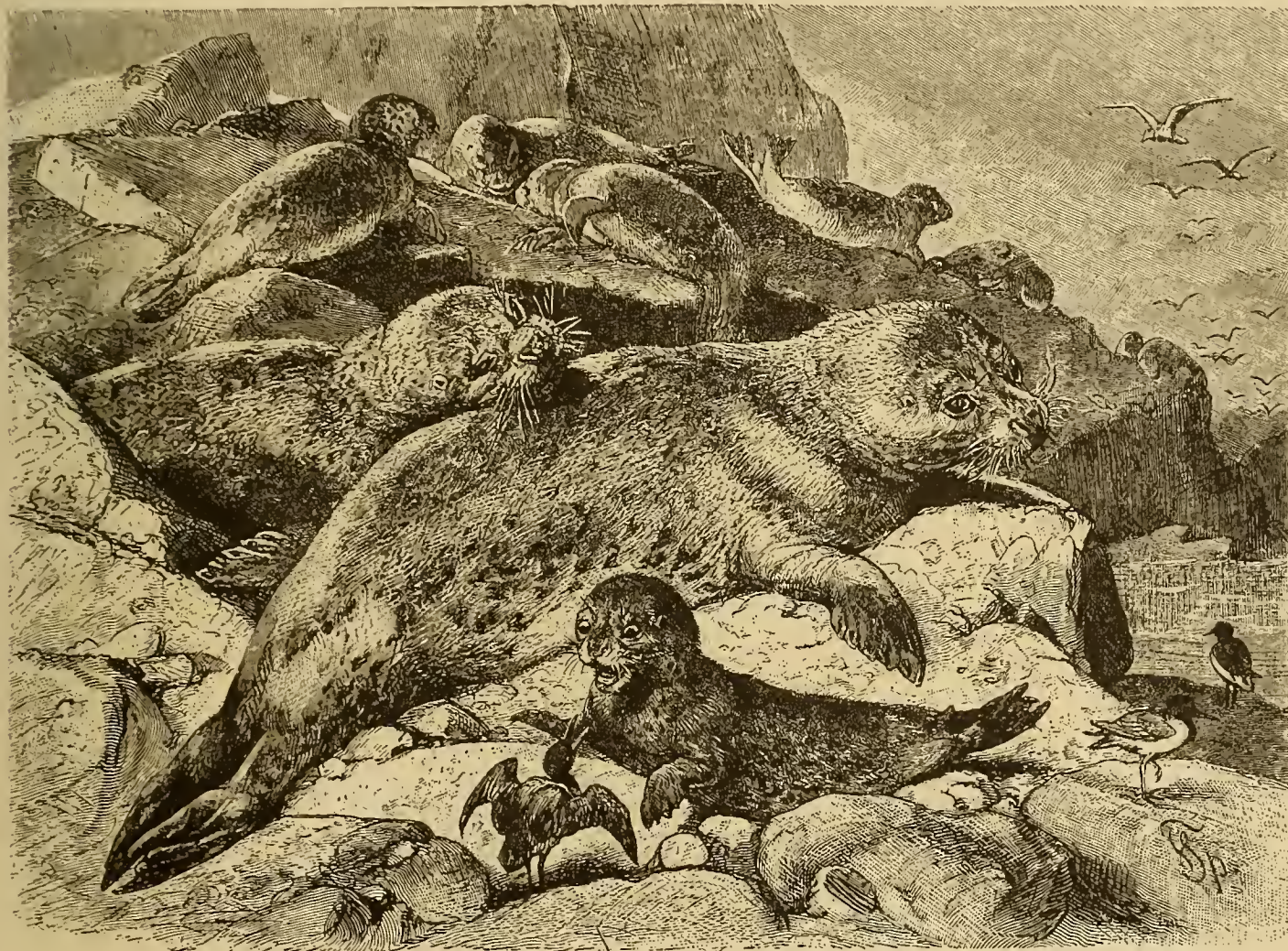
This species takes its name from the peculiar shape of the head. It is usually found in the Arctic Seas, but occasionally is seen as far South as New Jersey, and even Chesapeake Bay. It is not a common variety. The full-grown male attains a length of from 7 to 8 feet. When pursued it sometimes will turn and fight fiercely, and is regarded by the Esquimaux as one of the strongest and most courageous of the Seal tribe.

and snarls. With body thrown back and feet firmly planted, he awaits the supreme moment.

As soon as the Whale is within striking distance the iron is thrown, penetrating, if an expert hand has directed it, to a firm hold. The harpoon is fast, the Whale feels the instrument of torture in its back and rushes madly off through the waves. Then come the orders, "Stern all!" and "Wet line"—for as the line runs out from the tubs over the bow of the boat at lightning speed, it requires continual wetting to keep it from being burnt by friction.

Presently the rope can be made fast, and the boat is being towed by

the Whale at a tremendous pace. But the animal has to come up to breathe; then the line slackens so the crew can haul it into the boat, and soon the wounded monster is near to them again. Now comes the chance to use the explosive bombs. These have no line attached to them. They are fired from a heavy gun, which is aimed from the shoulder, and are exploded by means of a time fuse after being buried in the carcass of the Whale.



LEOPARD SEAL; Coasts of Australia, New Zealand, and the Antarctic Ocean.

Length about ten feet, color gray and black.

When the boat has drawn up to within twenty or thirty feet, one of these explosive shells is planted in a vital part, and almost immediately the muffled report of its bursting is heard. Then the dying struggles of the Whale begin. Spouting its life blood, the water is tinged all about with the ruddy hue. Swimming round and round, the poor brute heaves almost human sighs, and finally, with a gigantic nervous thrill and shake, gasps its last breath and turns on its side or back, dead.

Of course, there are many times when all does not go so successfully. The Whale frequently dashes off at race-horse speed, and tows the boat for miles without giving any sign of tiring. Nothing then remains to be done but to cut the line and start on a weary row back to the ship. Again, a Whale may rush upon the attacking boat and crush it in its gigantic jaws, or sweep it out of existence by a blow from the flukes (or



SEA ELEPHANT; Coasts of California and Mexico.

This animal is the largest of the true Seals. It was formerly common off the coast of California, but has been so much shot at and disturbed that it is now very scarce. Fourteen feet is the average length of a full-grown male, and even a greater size is sometimes attained. The color varies from brown to leaden gray.

tail). The capture of a Whale, therefore, is full of perils at all times. But it must be said that the undertaking has been shorn of some of its dangers by the introduction of guns and explosive bomb-lances.

After the Whale is dead it is brought alongside the ship, the fat or blubber cut off and "tried out" in great iron kettles, after which the carcass is cast adrift and floats away, surrounded by countless feasting sharks.

The Walrus, the Sea Lion, and the many different varieties of Seal live in the ocean and upon the shores, close to the water's edge. Although they can scramble up the steep banks of the rocky islands and ice-covered borders of the Northern seas, where they are chiefly found, they move but slowly on the land, with their bodies resting upon the ground, and with only fins instead of legs to aid their progress.



A SEAL ROOKERY, OR BREEDING GROUND.

On the unpeopled shores of the icy seas, under the Arctic and Antarctic circles, and still nearer to the Poles, these animals may be seen by thousands on the rocks, or on the cold and glittering ice.

Their food is fish, and of these they consume enormous quantities, seizing them in their sharp teeth as they dash rapidly through the water.

The Fur Seal, from which the skin is obtained to make the beautiful and costly sealskin garments, is the most valuable of all the Seal tribe. It differs in its habits from other Seals, and, indeed, from any other known animal, for it actually spends one-half the year entirely in the water, and the other half almost entirely on land.

A few islands in Behring's sea, known as the Seal Islands, are the only known breeding places of the Fur Seal. All through the winter months these desolate places are quiet and deserted, but when spring comes, and the ice melts, then the Seals begin to arrive from the warmer waters of the Pacific ocean, in which they have passed the winter.



FUR SEAL; Northern Pacific.

This is the species from which the valuable Seal-skin fur is obtained. In color it appears nearly black, changing to grayish upon the shoulders, and reddish brown below. Length of full grown males 7 feet, weight 500 lbs.

In a few more weeks a wonderful change has taken place in these barren islands. They are now teeming with life, and a densely packed and constantly moving mass of animals can be distinguished from a great distance. A hundred thousand or more Seals may be seen closely crowded together upon the rocky shores of their summer resting place, while a dull, hoarse roar greets the ear from tens of thousands of throats.

In all directions are to be seen the male Seals, each guarding his family, which may consist of from one to forty females and their young, according



WALRUS. Arctic Regions.

This animal is not very common, but numbers can still be found on the coasts of Labrador, East Greenland, and also in Behrings Straits. It is of heavy, unwieldy form and large size, sometimes measuring 13 feet in length and weighing 2000 pounds.

In color it is brown. The powerful tusks, which grow downward from the upper jaw to a length of nearly 2 feet, are of fine ivory; the Walrus uses them in climbing upon the ice and rocks, and for defence.

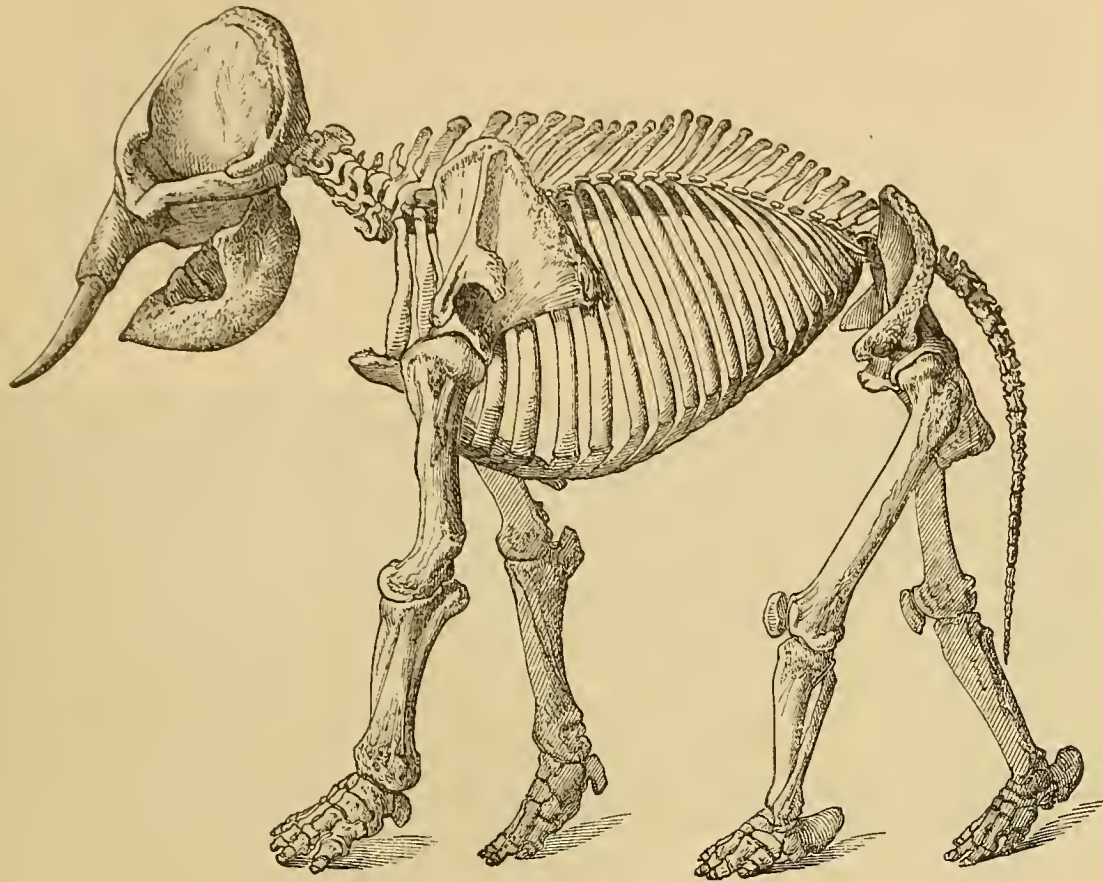
to his ability as a fighter. Every family occupies a certain space, which is secured after many a battle on the part of the bull Seal, and is most jealously guarded, especially if it is situated near the edge of the water, for these are the stations most highly prized, and can be held only by the strongest animals.

Closely packed as the creatures are, the mass of life is divided here and there by paths, where the young males, or "bachelors," are passing to and fro from the sea. These paths lead to the rear of the "rookery," as the summer stopping place of the Fur Seal is called, and here the young bulls live, for they are not permitted by their elders to enter the breeding grounds, except to pass up and down to the water by their regular paths, until they are five years old.

A great many never reach that age, however, for when three and four years old their fur is most glossy and beautiful: then, too, as the bachelors' quarters are some distance away from the family grounds, these young males can be driven off and killed without disturbing the females and their young, upon which the continued existence of these valuable animals largely depends.

When, therefore, a "drive" has been decided upon, the sealers run between the young bulls and their pathways to the sea, and drive away those selected for killing to a place some distance from the rookery. Here they are knocked on the head with a heavy club, and their valuable skins—the cause of all their troubles—quickly removed, after which their carcasses are left to rot upon the shore of their island.

The rough, hairy coats of the living Seals do not look at all like the soft, dark-brown fur which we see in the costly garments made from their skins. This is because only the short under-fur is used. In preparing the hide the inner side is scraped until it is reduced to half its thickness, and the roots of the long strong hairs, which penetrate the skin most deeply, are cut off, after which they are easily removed. The roots of the delicate under-fur are not touched by the scraping-knife, and consequently it retains its hold: even the rich, dark-brown color of the finished furs is not natural, but is produced by dye. So important is this industry that the destructive and short-sighted methods of British-Columbian seal-hunters who, in the early spring, shoot and harpoon the Seals while swimming towards their breeding islands, in the open waters of the Behring Sea, have at times caused serious controversy between this country and England.



SKELETON OF AN ELEPHANT.

THE ELEPHANT.

Of all the wild animals in the world, none excites so much curiosity as the Elephant. Not only is it the largest of the land creatures, but its strange shape, resistless strength, and great sagacity render it an object of interest to thousands of persons who are ordinarily little concerned about even the strangest forms of animal life existing upon the globe.

In mere size alone the Elephant is indeed a wonderful creature: when it is considered that a large horse weighs but fifteen hundred pounds, and that the weight of a full-grown African Elephant is twelve thousand pounds, an idea can be formed of the ponderous bulk of this huge beast.

The neck of the Elephant is short and thick, so as to support the heavy head and tusks; it therefore cannot stoop when feeding, like the horse or cow; all its food must be picked up and carried to its mouth. The long, flexible trunk performs this service, and is, perhaps, the most wonderful part of the huge creature's body.

So strong is this useful member that it can seize a man and dash him senseless to the earth, and yet so sensitive, that with it the Elephant can

pick up a penny from the ground and hold it out, clasped in the little finger-like tip.

The trunk is really the nose of the Elephant as well as its arm and hand; for it contains two hollow tubes, and through it the animal can smell and breathe. Even the water that it drinks is sucked up by the trunk and afterward discharged into the mouth; in fact, so important is this member that without it the Elephant would soon starve.



AFRICAN ELEPHANT.

This variety is found, in a wild state, throughout Southern Central Africa. Well-known explorers of these regions say that specimens have been seen which exceeded 12 feet in height. In shape it differs from the Asiatic (or Indian) Elephant: the back being hollow, the head long, and the ears enormous, completely covering the shoulders when thrown back. In color both varieties are a rusty black.

THE ELEPHANT AND THE BASKET OF RICE.

As showing how the trunk can be used in picking up small substances, a resident in India says:—

I had an Elephant which would eat every bit of rice in a round wicker basket, by sucking the grains up into its trunk and then blowing them into its mouth.

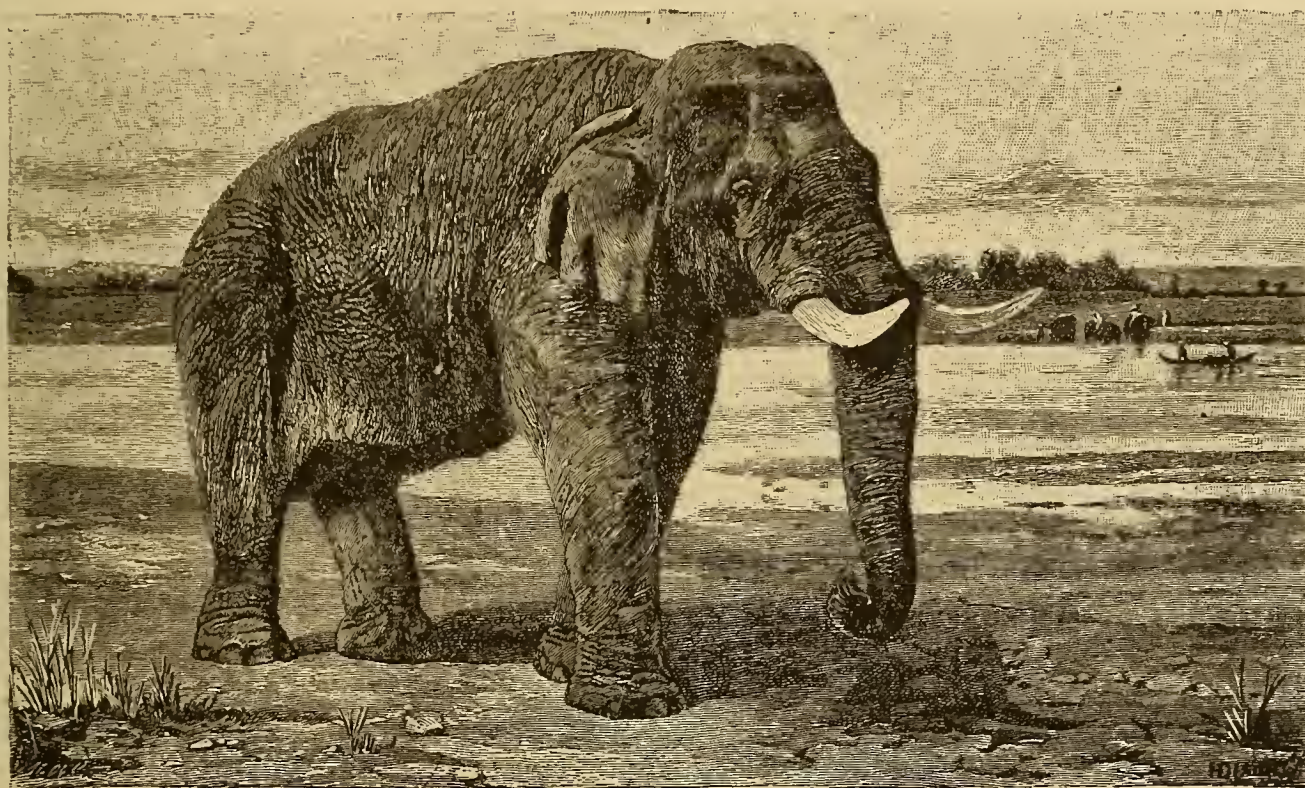
The basket was closely woven and quite smooth inside, but, although brimful, the Elephant would empty it of every grain, and leave it as clean and bare as though it had been wiped out with a sponge.

The trunk is eight feet long. Its flexibility and strength are due to interlaced but separate muscles, estimated to number not less than 40,000.

There are two different kinds of Elephants, those of Africa and Asia.

The larger of these is the African Elephant, which lives in a wild state in the dense forests of the interior, generally near some river, in which it loves to bathe and wallow during the heated seasons of that tropical land.

As the tusks of the Elephant furnish the finest ivory, thousands of wild African Elephants are slaughtered every year for their valuable tusks



ASIATIC (OR INDIAN) ELEPHANT.

Nine feet is a good height for a full-grown male of this variety, and 8 feet for a female. The largest Indian Elephants do not measure more than 10 feet in perpendicular height. Those which are most valued have the head large, majestic; the trunk thick and massive; the skin soft; the body well rounded; and the back slightly arched; highest at the shoulder and not sloping too suddenly toward the tail, as in the African variety.

alone. Hunting these great beasts is attended with great danger; the charge of a wounded Elephant being irresistible in its furious onward rush.

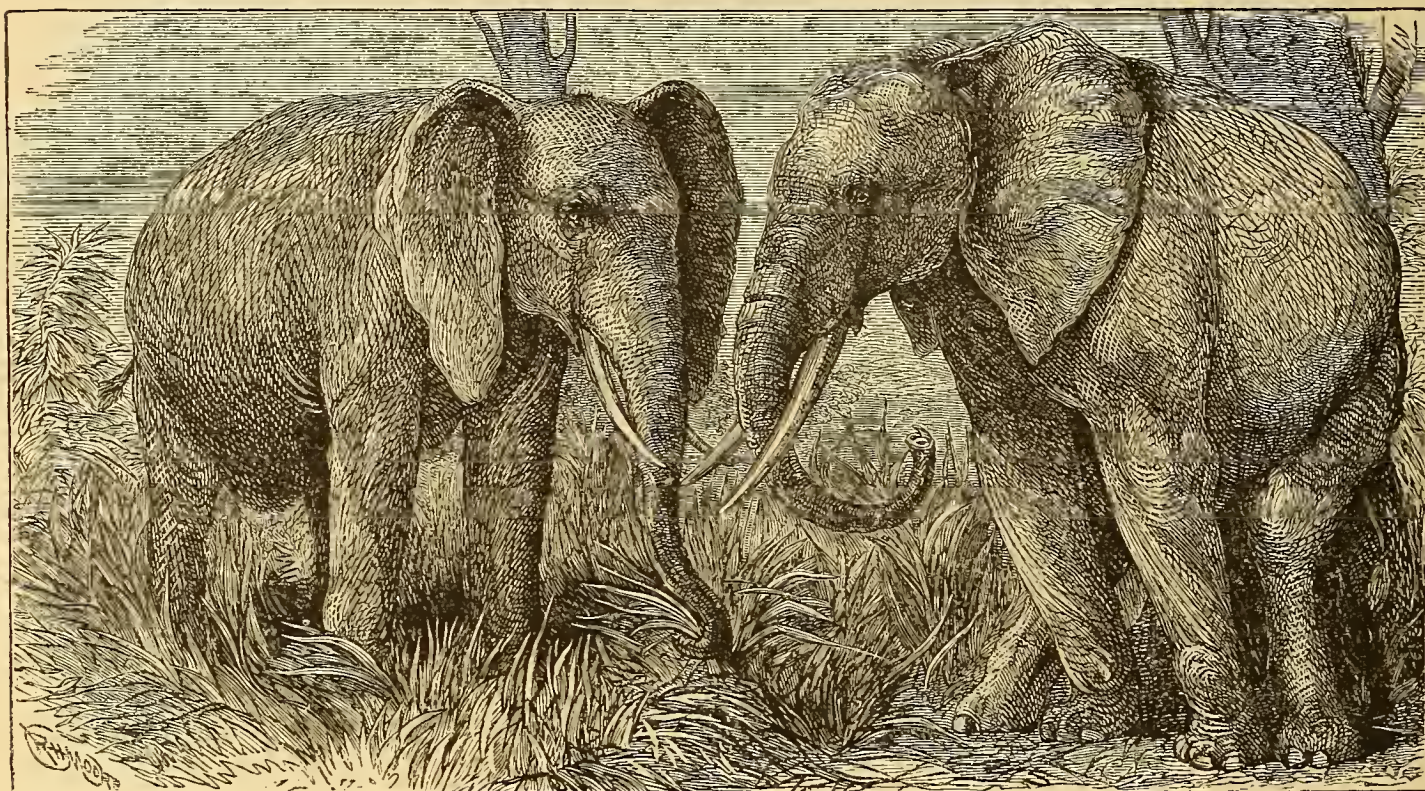
An African traveler and hunter, who has followed and laid low many of these gigantic beasts in their native wilds, tells the following story:—

HUNTING AFRICAN ELEPHANTS.

Our camp was near the river bank, and during the night Elephants had been heard to cross the shallow ford, trumpeting and splashing about as they waded to the other side.

In the morning we determined to look for them in the dense forest which grew upon the opposite bank. As soon as we had crossed, we found the tracks, plainly showing in the soft ground, and saw that the herd consisted of five Elephants, all bulls, two of which appeared to be giants. (This knowledge of the foot-prints the hunter soon gains from a study of their size and shape.)

As there was every probability of there being some heavy ivory among these big fellows, we quickened our pace, with the hope of soon overtaking them. After an hour's hard tramp along the river bed and through the



THE GIANTS OF THE HERD.

woods, now on one side of the river, and now on the other, we at last came to a place where broken branches of the trees, and leaves scattered upon the ground, showed that the animals had been feeding.

My Zulu guide, known by the name of Mopolo, who carried my spare gun, was in front, leading the way cautiously in the direction taken by the herd. Suddenly he stopped, bent his back, and ran for shelter behind a tree—the game was in sight.

After looking carefully to the guns I advanced a few steps, and, peering through the thick growth of young timber which skirted an open space covered with long grass, saw the herd. There were two immense tuskers standing head to head, as if talking together, and three smaller bulls.



AN OLD TUSKER.

After going forward about two hundred yards, carefully parting the long grass as I advanced, I came near one of the Elephants. I soon saw that it was one of the young bulls. So, without disturbing him, and keeping him to windward, I went on further in search of his larger companions.

A moment later Mopolo, who was advancing a little to the left, saw one of the giants of the herd, which by this time had separated from the others. He pointed in the direction of the beast without speaking; instantly I also saw him. He appeared a veritable monster; but as I could not get a shot at his side from where I was standing, I had to creep a considerable distance toward the right before I could see the proper mark for a fatal wound.

The animal appeared very uneasy and suspicious of danger, having probably scented us, but I managed to crawl within twenty-five yards of him, and, kneeling behind a tall ant-hill, aimed at a mark just behind the edge of the great ear and fired.

Instantly the Elephant charged headlong through the smoke which hung a few paces beyond our place of concealment, and halted, while I slipped around to the other side of my shelter and gave him the other barrel.

This shot appeared to stagger him for a few minutes; then he seemed to recover, and again rushed headlong at the tell-tale smoke which hovered in the still, warm air, just above the ground.

Mopolo now pushed the spare gun into my hand, and turned to go back to his hiding place in the thick grass to my right.

The wounded beast continued to stand still. His ears flapped out and his trunk swayed to and fro, as if trying to hear, or scent out, the hidden enemy which was dealing him such deadly blows.

At this moment my guide, either in changing his position or while trying to reload the empty gun, made an unfortunate movement which attracted the attention of the Elephant. The great head quickly turned in the direction of the sound, and the little, red eyes of the angry monster twinkled savagely as he caught a momentary glimpse of his foe, then, uttering a shrill scream of rage, he charged down upon the frightened Zulu. I was unable to get a fair shot at the flying brute, and stood transfixed with horror, awaiting the apparently certain destruction of my faithful attendant.

The furious beast soon reached the spot where the man was concealed in the long grass, and the next moment I saw his body, tossed upward by the Elephant's tusks, fall bruised and torn some distance away.



DEATH OF THE GUIDE.

The Elephant turned to follow his victim, evidently intending to crush out, under his ponderous weight, any life that might remain. But in turning the brute presented his full side fairly toward me. I instantly

took aim, and pressing both triggers of my heavy double rifle sent a couple of bullets, as I afterward discovered, straight through his lungs.

The sorely wounded monster tried to charge upon me, but could not, and then stood, grievously hurt but determined to hold his ground, presenting a grand picture of courage and resolution, as, chained to the spot and plainly unable to further resist the destroyer, his eyes still shot forth defiance, his great ears stood out at right angles from the body, while almost continuously there sounded forth from the trunk, now pouring with blood, a long trumpet blast of defiance.

But the effect of the bullets, which had pierced his vitals, could not long be withstood; the great head began to sink, a few tremulous movements of the gigantic carcass took place, a stagger, and then that tower of animal matter came down with a crash that seemed to make the whole earth tremble.

I at once ran to the place where the body of my unfortunate guide had fallen. He was stone dead, having been frightfully torn by the Elephant's tusk, as well as bruised and crushed by the powerful trunk.

Sadly, I turned away, and calling the remainder of our party together, we carried the body of the poor fellow back for burial.

Later, the natives returned to the scene of the conflict, and, apparently little affected by the death of one of their number, quickly chopped out from their sockets the valuable tusks of the fallen monster, and laden with these, as well as with liberal slices of the meat, came back to the camp, to spend the rest of the night in feasting upon their favorite food.

SLAUGHTER OF AFRICAN ELEPHANTS.

Owing to the constant pursuit of the Elephant, by native and white hunters, the day must soon come when they can no longer be obtained.

Besides furnishing the valued ivory, the Elephant's huge carcass supplies the Africans with large quantities of meat, which they eat with the greatest relish. Pieces of its thick, tough hide, stretched upon frames of wood, form their shields, and its fat, when boiled down, is greatly valued. No portion of the animal is wasted by the natives, and, indeed, Europeans who have been present at such scenes, say that it is a most disgusting sight to see a howling horde of naked people tearing and hacking in pieces the body of one of these fallen giants. The black forms of the savage executioners become covered with the blood which flows from the great carcass, and the earth round about is dyed red with gore.



AFRICAN NATIVES CUTTING IN PIECES THE CARCASS OF AN ELEPHANT.

An African savage never shows any sympathy or pity for a wild animal, his only desire is to destroy. A traveler and explorer says:—

During a long residence in Africa I never once saw a tamed wild animal in the hands of the natives; their brutal natures seem to be incapable of forming any attachment for such dependent creatures.

TRAPPING ELEPHANTS.

Not only are Elephants hunted with the spear and rifle, but the African employs various means for trapping them.

The pitfall is the most common kind of trap used; it is always set in a path leading to the water, for Elephants are thirsty brutes, and nightly seek the river for their regular drink or bath. The pits or holes are about twelve feet deep and are covered by reeds or branches, over which earth is sprinkled; one is placed in the middle of the path, and others are dug some distance away upon either side.

The night arrives;—the unsuspecting Elephants, having traveled many miles of dusty, sun-dried wilderness, rush down the well-known road to quench their thirst in the welcome river, when,—Crash! goes their leader into a carefully concealed pit-fall.

Away to the right and left rush the frightened herd, alarmed at the unexpected accident to their companion. But the other pitfalls, cunningly placed out at the sides to meet this sudden panic, are crushed into by the fleeing animals, so several more fall victims before the remnant of the herd finally escapes from the dangerous vicinity.

In the morning the trappers come to examine the pits, and soon look down on the broad backs of the helpless captives as they desperately struggle to ascend the steep sides of their prisons.

Now the long, sharp spears of the natives are brought into use, and are plunged repeatedly into the quivering bodies of their prey, until the gigantic animals at last die from loss of blood.

THE FIRE HUNT.

There is another terrible way of destroying Elephants in Central Africa:—

During the dry season, when the tall, withered grass burns most easily, a herd of Elephants may sometimes be seen feeding in the centre of a field.

At once all the natives in the neighborhood assemble together, and, forming a circle, perhaps two miles across, set fire to the grass so as to surround the feeding Elephants with a ring of flame.

Now, an Elephant is naturally very much afraid of fire, and has a great horror of the crackling and snapping of flames; so as soon as the blazing circle approaches the doomed beasts they attempt to escape to a place of safety, but at every turn they are met by the terror-inspiring flames. At length, half suffocated by the dense smoke, threatened by the roaring flames, and panic-stricken by the wild shouts from their tormenters, whose black forms can be seen assembled in hundreds outside the fatal circle, the unfortunate animals charge recklessly through the fire, burnt and blinded, to meet the spears or guns of the blood-thirsty crowd of natives, who are eagerly awaiting this last stampede.



A FIRE HUNT.

Sometimes one hundred or more Elephants are destroyed in one of these fire hunts. As soon as the victims have fallen under their wounds, the wild horde of natives rush upon the prostrate forms, with knife in hand, and cut the flesh from the bones in long strips, which are then dried.

A great part of the animal is usually smoked upon frames of green wood, and the harvest of meat is shared in by all the natives who have taken part in the hunt. The tusks are also shared, a certain portion belonging by right to the various head-men or chiefs.

Occasionally, however, after having set fire to a considerable extent of

dry, grass-covered country, the flames get beyond the control of the native hunters, and a wild flight before the advancing blaze is all that remains for them.



FIRE HUNTERS NARROWLY ESCAPE THE FLAMES.

THE INDIAN ELEPHANT.

While the African Elephant has rarely been tamed, or trained to be of service, those of Asia, for hundreds of years, have been the useful servants of man.

One of the most striking spectacles to the stranger in India, is to see these great animals used in many parts of the country, as beasts of burden.

The native princes and rajahs of India, pay high prices for large and handsome Elephants, and take great pride in the ornamental trappings with which they adorn their monstrous steeds on occasions of public display.



A BABY ELEPHANT.

Sometimes a cloth of silk, so closely embroidered with heavy gold as to be of enormous value, nearly covers the animal, while the ornamental car, or howdah, which towers above its back is equally rich in decoration. Frequently there may be one hundred Elephants in one of these native processions, and as all of the great beasts are decked out with gold and embroidered coverings, and carry large silver bells suspended from their tusks, they present a splendid appearance.

The prices of Elephants in India vary as much as do those of horses in this country. A sum equal to seven or eight thousand dollars of our money is sometimes paid for a fine specimen, which in size, gentleness of disposition, and perfect training, satisfies the requirements of a rich eastern prince.

As the Elephant lives to be one hundred years old, it therefore exceeds in the length of service it renders its owner all other domestic animals.

Wild Elephants, are also found in India, and sometimes they do an immense amount of damage to the plantations and villages of the natives. Strange to say, the most dangerous and ferocious of these wild Elephants are those which have spent some years in captivity, and have been trained to the service of man. After escaping from their masters, it seems that they may become more savage than their untamed companions which have never known restraint.

A DANGEROUS ELEPHANT.

There was a well-known Elephant some years ago, says a traveler in India, which was celebrated throughout the Balaghôt district for the extraordinary fierceness of its disposition.

Having one day slipped the chain which interfered with the freedom of its movements, it killed the mahout with a blow of the trunk, and at once made off toward the forest.

The acquaintance it had gained during many years of confinement, with the customs of the people, gave it power to work the greatest mischief to all the surrounding villages. It became the pest, not only of the immediate neighborhood, but over fully one hundred miles of country its visits were dreaded.

No village was safe from the attack of this terrible beast. It would travel great distances and appear at unexpected times, suddenly presenting itself to the horrified villagers, who fled in all directions, leaving their homes and their supplies of grain to be demolished by this irresistible

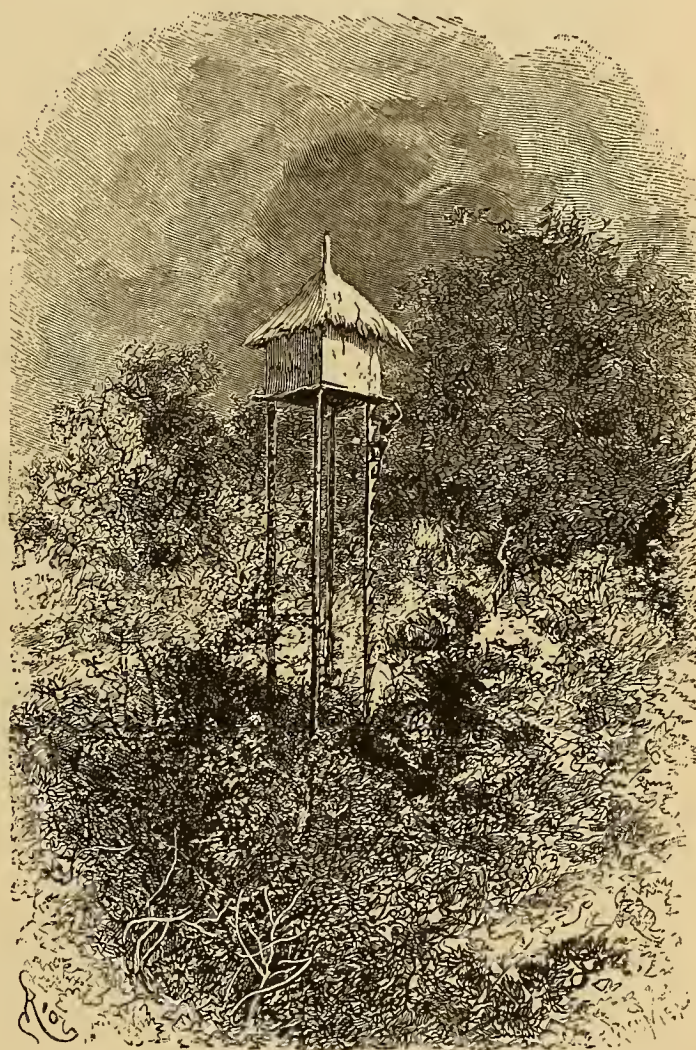
destroyer, who tore down their dwellings, ransacked their stores of corn, and killed any unfortunate person who came within its reach.

There was a cruel, murderous spirit in the beast which was entirely different from the ordinary ferocity of a wild animal. It would not only attack villages in search of grain, but it was particularly fond of destroying the high watching-places in the fields, which were occupied every night by some of the farm hands, who were placed there to scare away wild boars, and other trespassers upon the crops.

These watch-houses are built upon poles, a platform and small hut resting upon the top, about sixteen feet from the ground. From these high places the watchers yell and scream throughout the night to frighten away the wild beasts.

To attack and tear down these watch-towers was the special delight of this blood-thirsty elephant. Instead of being scared by the noisy shouts that came from these lofty perches in the air, they attracted him, and unseen in the dark, and without warning, the watchers soon felt the great brute battering down the supports of their little tower. The slender posts, upon which the platform was built, offered no resistance to such an assault, and the miserable natives found themselves, in a few moments, hurled to the ground amongst the ruins of their building. In another instant they were either caught and stamped to death, or chased through the darkness by the savage elephant, which, when it captured them exhibited a cruel pleasure in slowly killing them by placing one huge foot upon the victim, and then tearing off an arm, a leg, or the head from the mangled body.

In this manner about twenty persons were killed in the district and it became absolutely necessary to destroy the ferocious beast. A well-known



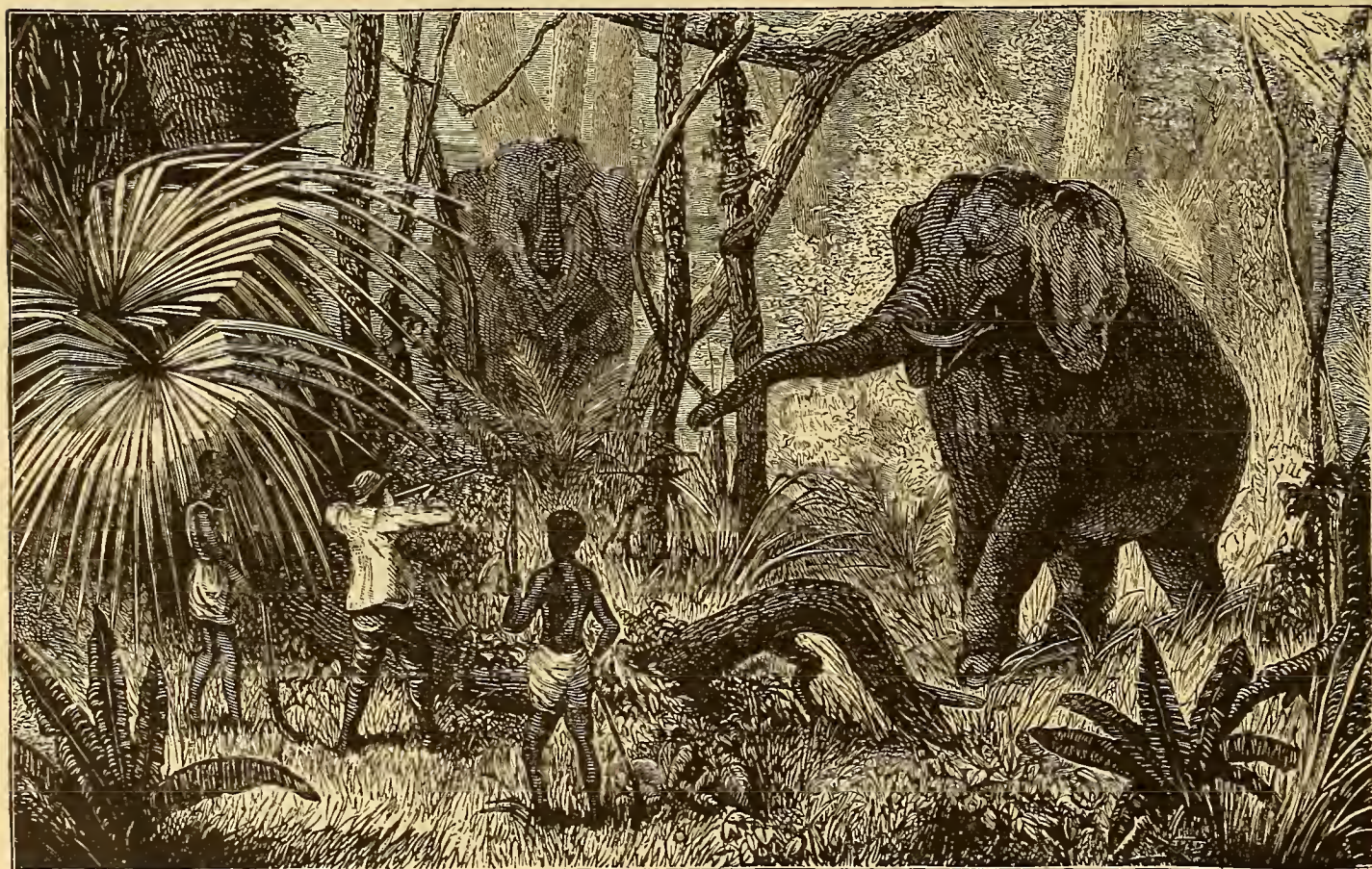
NATIVES' WATCH-TOWER.

hunter determined to kill it, and guided by the reports of the natives, followed it for many days, but as the animal cunningly left the places it had attacked, and hid in some jungle retreat, it was very hard to find.

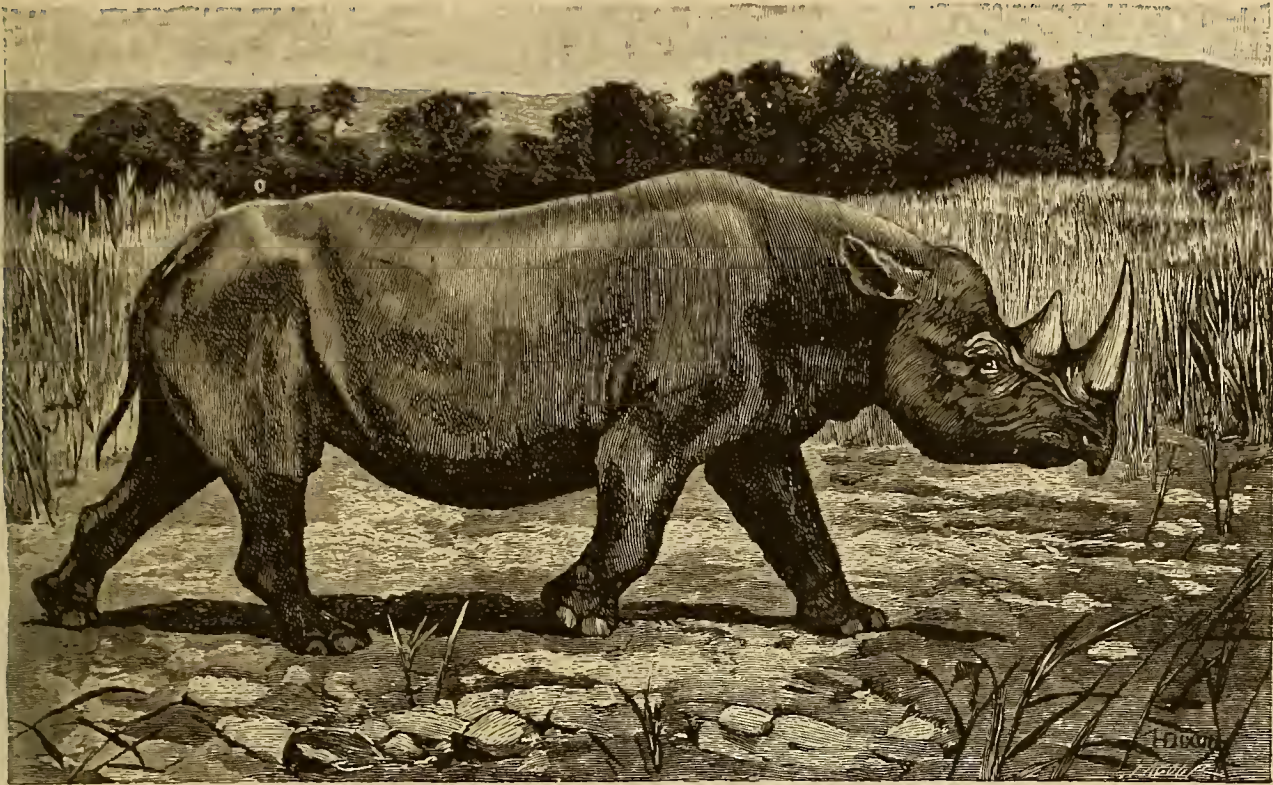
At length the hunter succeeded in tracking his dangerous enemy to a dense wood, in which it was discovered asleep. He carefully placed his men, and cautiously they advanced. But in spite of all their efforts to move quietly, a suspicious sound must have fallen upon the ever-watchful ear of the sleeping giant, for suddenly it aroused, and before the hunter could plainly see its form, advanced upon him.

But there was a great difference between an attack upon helpless natives, and stand-up fight with a white man and his attendants who were armed with the best, breech-loading rifles.

In turning to charge the Elephant exposed its side. The hunter immediately aimed for the head, at a mark between the eye and ear, and firing twice in rapid succession lodged two bullets in the brain of the savage monster, and thus ended its career.



A STAND-UP FIGHT.



TWO-HORNED BLACK RHINOCEROS, OR KEITLOA.

THE RHINOCEROS.

Next to the elephant, the RHINOCEROS is the largest of forest creatures ; it is also one of the most ill-favored, and its huge, unwieldy body, rough, armor-like skin, little, blinking eyes, and formidable horn, comprise a whole which for brute ugliness it would be hard to equal.

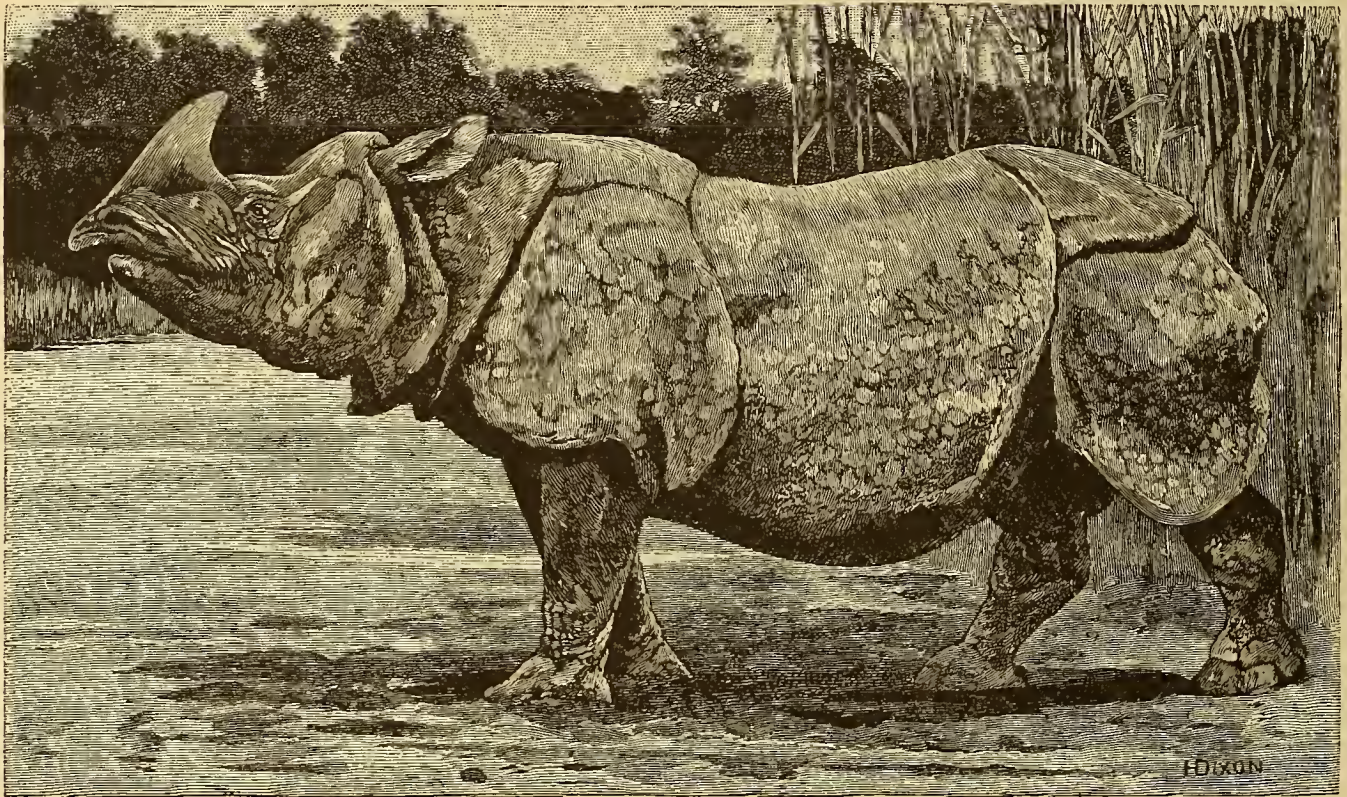
The skin of the Rhinoceros is so thick that only a well-directed bullet, or a sharp spear driven by the strongest of arms, will pierce it. Two pointed horns grow from the centre of its head, which, when used for attack, are driven forward by all the great weight of the animal's body and the whole power of its muscular neck.

The Rhinoceros is, in fact, a kind of living battering-ram, and, when it lowers its horn and charges upon an enemy, neither man nor beast can resist the crushing blow. Even wild elephants have been seen to run away when attacked by this surly, quarrelsome beast.

While the Rhinoceroses all resemble each other in form, and, to a certain extent, in habits there are several different varieties which can easily be distinguished by their color, size, and the shape or number of their horns.

In Africa the two-horned, white Rhinoceros is the largest of its kind. When full grown it sometimes exceeds eighteen feet in length and five feet in height; the longer of its two horns measures two feet. Although so large, this kind is not as dangerous as some others, and will not usually attack man or beast unless provoked or wounded.

The two-horned black Rhinoceros, or Keitloa, is somewhat smaller than the white. Its horns are, however, longer, and instead of one of them, being short, as in the white Rhinoceros, both are nearly of an equal length, which is frequently more than three feet. It is of solitary habits and of



INDIAN RHINOCEROS.

Height at the shoulder $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 feet; color reddish brown.

such ferocious nature that there is great danger in attacking it, unless the hunter is armed with a heavy rifle and is enabled, by the character of the ground, to find a secure refuge from the fierce rush which is sure to follow the first shot.

The white Rhinoceroses have square, blunt muzzles and flat lips. They graze with their heads lowered to the grass, like an ox or sheep. The black Rhinoceroses have the upper lip long and flexible; for they browse upon leaves and twigs. The two differ also in habits and disposition, the white kind being harmless eaters of grass, which live in peace with all other animals; while the black feed on young shoots, branches, and roots,



SPOILING FOR A FIGHT.

The Two-Horned Black Rhinoceros, or Keitloa (Southern and Central Africa.)

[175]

which they dig up with their horns, and are the most quarrelsome, savage brutes to be found, attacking either man or beast with equal fury.

The Indian Rhinoceros differs from both of the African varieties, in having but one horn. The skin, also, is so enormously thick that the animal looks as if it were actually encased in armor. Each part of its body is furnished with a separate plate of this defensive covering, the edges of which overlap each other at the neck, behind the shoulder, and across the thighs as the creature moves. Indeed, if it were not for these flexible joints in its coat of mail, freedom of movement would be impossible. It is not dangerous except when attacked or wounded, and does not show the surly, ferocious nature of the Keitloa, or black Rhinoceros of Africa, when disturbed in its jungle retreat.

While most of the forest creatures try to avoid man's presence, and run away if he should approach them, the black Rhinoceros is afraid of nothing; as soon as he scents an intruder upon his home, he tosses his head, sweeps right and left with his great horns, and charges in the direction he believes his enemy to be.

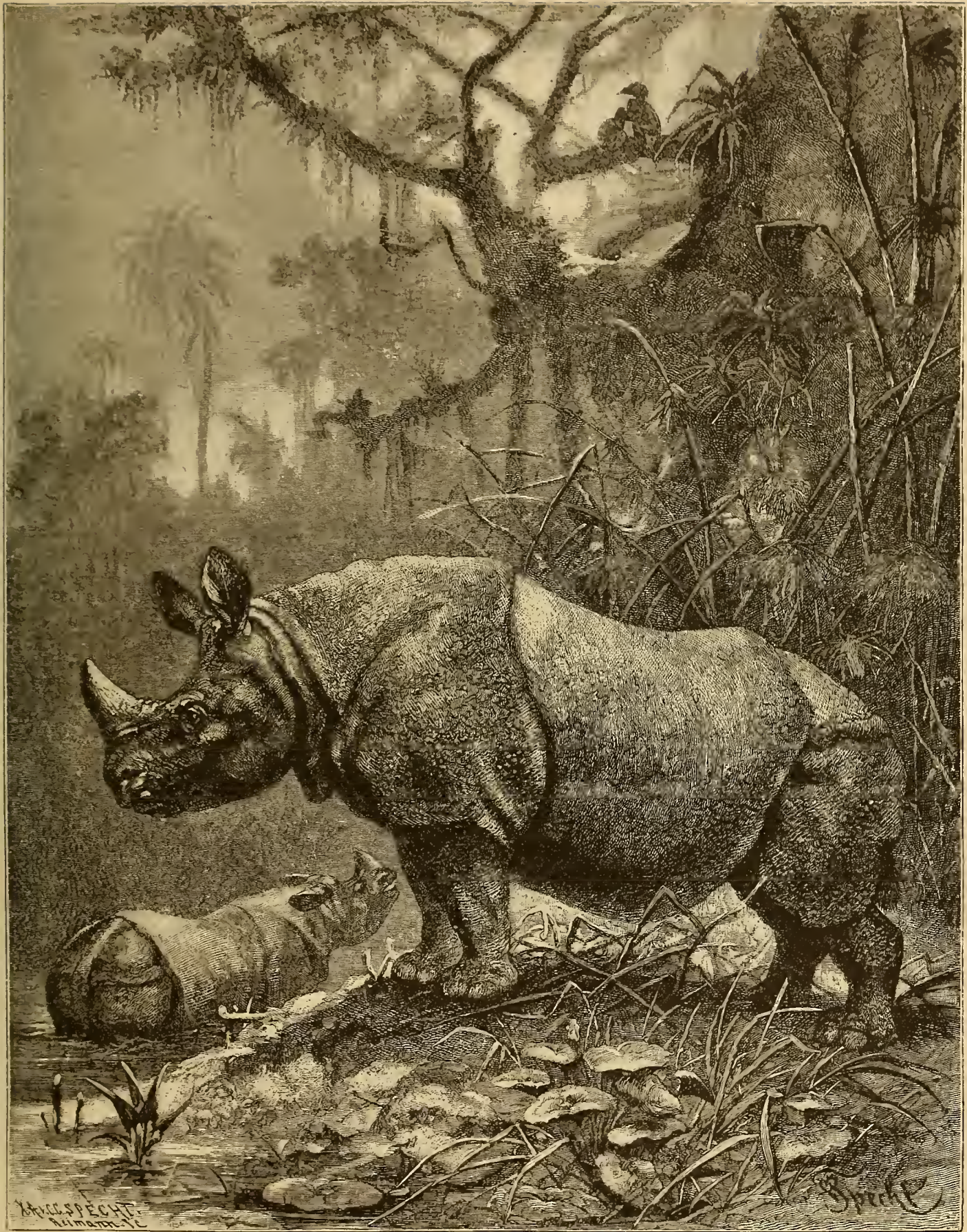
Even the lion gives the Rhinoceros the right of way, and the elephant will yield the path to him rather than engage in a fight with such a dangerous foe. Sometimes the elephant is attacked by the quarrelsome brute, and then a terrible battle begins. The elephant, if he is a tuskier, generally gets the best of it, although a whole herd of elephants have been seen to run away when attacked by two black Rhinoceroses.

A trader tells a most interesting story of an adventure with a black Rhinoceros in Southern Africa, which runs as follows:—

A RHINOCEROS IN THE PATH.

I was taking one of my long trips into the interior of Africa, and riding on horseback along a bush path, followed by my carriers, each bearing his pack of goods, when a sudden, loud snort in the bushes warned us that big game was near. I had only time to take my rifle from the hands of the carrier who walked by my horse's side, when a huge black Rhinoceros showed itself just ahead. I quickly put a couple of bullets into its ugly carcass, hoping that it would make off, but it turned with surprising quickness, considering its big, clumsy body, and charged down upon us.

My startled carriers did not know which way to run, and before they could get out of the way, two of them were knocked over and badly hurt.



INDIAN RHINOCEROS.

I attempted to turn and fire again, but my horse, seeing the Rhinoceros on the point of running us down, gave a leap into the air and went plunging through the bush, closely followed by the wounded monster.

The ground was rough and very hard for the horse to run on; trunks of trees and overhanging boughs met me in every direction, so that I had to duck and dodge to avoid them. I could hear my pursuer panting and grunting close behind; hunting me just as a hound hunts a fox. It was getting alarming; I saw that something must speedily be done, and



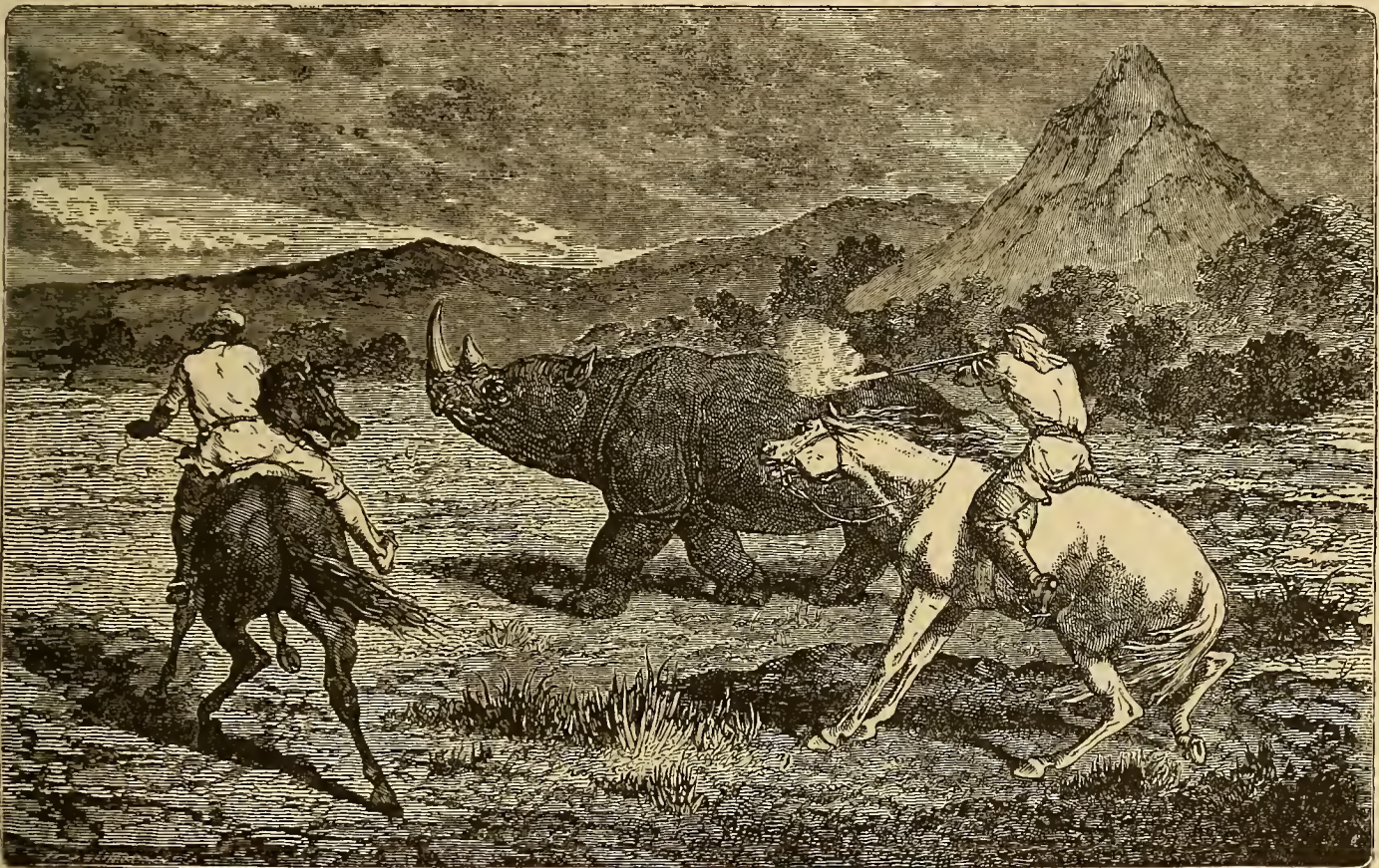
A BULLET JUST IN TIME.

realizing that my horse, which was light-colored, made an easy mark to follow, I watched my chance and slipped from his back. He ran away to one side and was caught by one of my men, who quickly tied him to the limb of a tree and then disappeared.

I now crept away under the thick bushes, bending nearly double, so as not to attract my pursuer, when I heard a crashing in the undergrowth some distance away, and climbing on the slanting trunk of an uprooted tree, I saw the Rhinoceros come out of the bushes and rush toward my horse.

The poor beast gave a loud scream as he saw his danger, and rearing up, tried in vain to break the strong bridle. There was yet time for a shot if I could clear myself from the thick, tangled growth of vines and branches. Tearing my way through them, I reached a little hill, followed by two of my frightened carriers, and, raising my rifle, put a bullet behind the shoulder-blade of the Rhinoceros, just as he was lowering his formidable horn to stab my terrified steed.

The vicious brute turned away from the horse to meet this new attack, and was advancing toward us, when I brought him to his knees by another



A HUNT ON HORSEBACK.

bullet through the shoulder, and, one of my men now arriving with a spare gun, I put another through his heart, thus ending the fray. This was the most exciting adventure I had ever had with a wild animal, and I determined never again to attack a Rhinoceros unless I was better prepared for the encounter.

On another occasion, says the same trader, I was riding across a wide, open plain, accompanied by my Kaffir attendant, when we saw just ahead of us a black Rhinoceros. He had not yet noticed us, and as we were

both mounted on fine horses, and the ground was level and smooth, I determined to have a shot at him.

Accordingly, we skirted the clearing cautiously, and making a sudden dash were soon alongside. Pulling up my panting horse, which was trembling like a leaf at this close approach to the dangerous monster, I aimed my rifle at his heart and fired.

With a shrill snort of rage, the Rhinoceros turned and came directly at us, with horns lowered, and tail straight on end. We jumped our horses to one side, avoiding his onward rush, and, just as he was turning to make another charge, I planted a second bullet close beside the first.

These two shots, fired at such close range, seemed to sicken him; he swerved to one side, then his fore-legs gave way, and he rolled over dead.

It is a singular fact, that, although the horns of the Rhinoceros are such dangerous weapons, they do not grow from sockets in the skull, like the tusks of the elephant, but merely rest upon a hard, thick bone which forms a foundation for them just above the nose. They are firmly attached, however, to their base, and are further supported by the growth of immensely thick skin which surrounds them.

When a Rhinoceros has been killed, and the head has been exposed three days in the sun to dry, the horns can be knocked off by a light blow, and the foundation on which they rested plainly seen.

A RHINOCEROS TRAP.

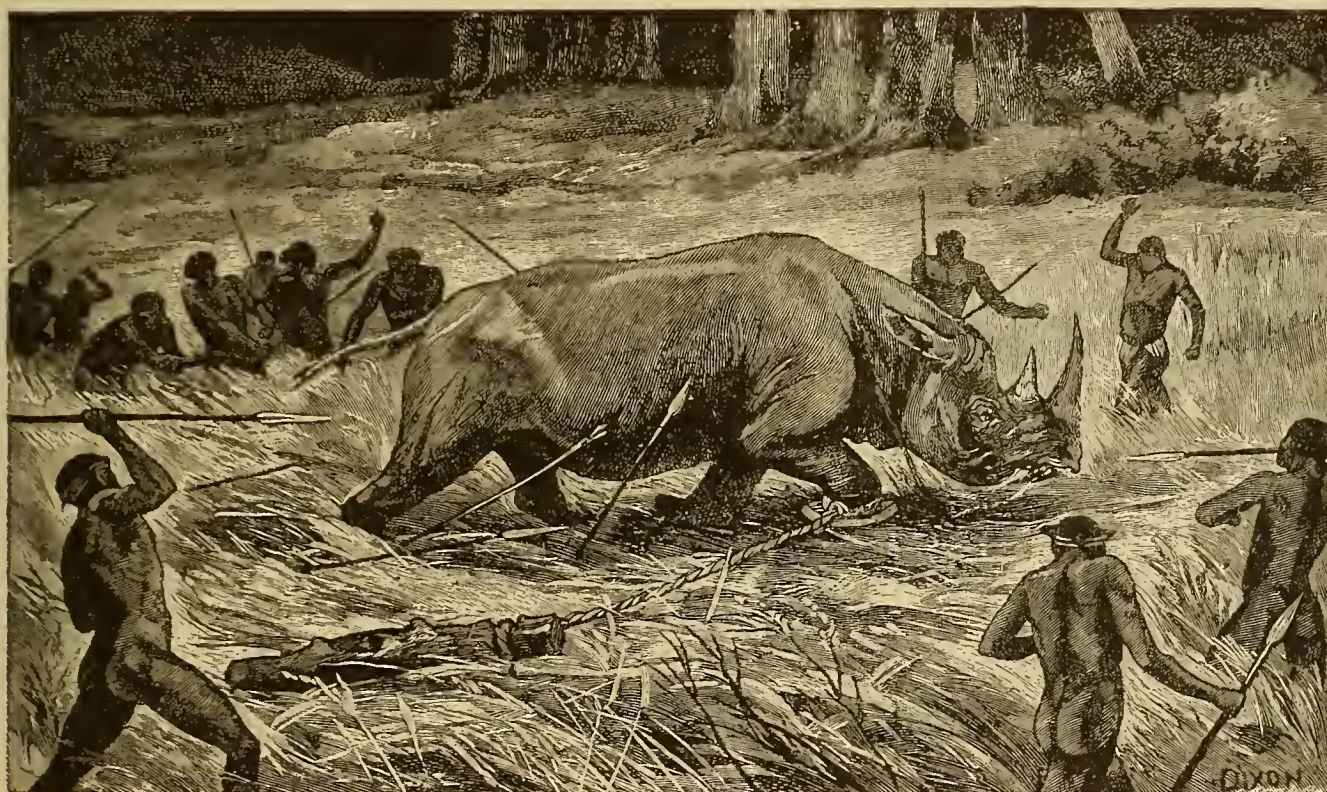
All the varieties of the Rhinoceros have the same strangely shaped foot, consisting of three horny toes, resembling small hoofs, each of which forms nearly a half circle. This round-shaped foot is taken advantage of by the Africans, who capture the great animal by means of a cunningly-made trap.

A round, shallow hole, the size of the Rhinoceros's foot, is dug in the path; this hole is covered by a wooden circle, like a small wheel. The spokes are made of sharply-pointed bamboo stakes, attached to the wheel only at the outer ends, the points facing each other in the centre, where the hub of an ordinary wheel should be.

After this trap is made it looks a little like a sieve, as it lies upon the ground, but if any person were to thrust his arm through the centre of the pointed spokes, he could not draw it out again, for the sharp ends would spring together and hold him firmly.

Accordingly, when the Rhinoceros plants his heavy foot in the snare, it closes around his leg, so that when he lifts it from the hole the stout circle of bamboo is firmly fastened around it, and cannot be shaken off. A strong rope with a slip noose is fixed around the trap; the other end being fastened to a great log of wood.

Down the path, with heavy tread, comes the Rhinoceros, and one of his great feet is planted directly in the snare. Away with a rush he goes as soon as he feels the trap and noose close upon his leg, and after him trails

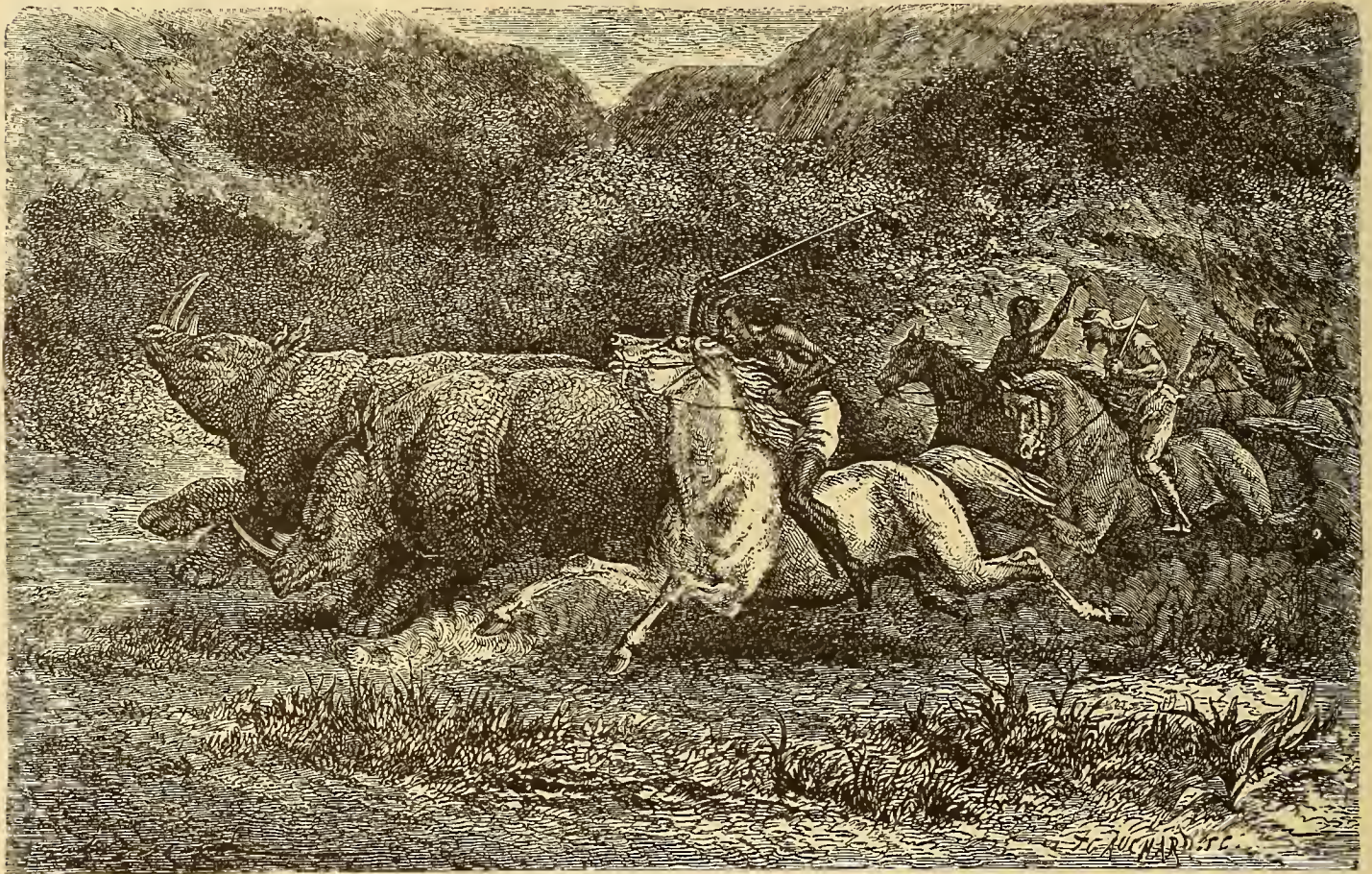


A TRAPPED RHINOCEROS.

the log, catching in bushes and thorns, until it tires out at last even his enormous strength, and he is obliged to stop.

The hunters easily follow the trail left by the dragging log, and soon overtaking the entrapped animal, the fight commences. As the hunters are armed only with spears, that are with difficulty forced through the thick hide of the horned monster, the battle is a long one, and sometimes the tables are turned upon the trappers by the breaking of the rope; this frees the enraged Rhinoceros, which at once rushes upon his tormenters with lowered horns, and impales some of them upon the sharp points.

A tribe of bold sword-hunters, known as the Hamran Arabs, sometimes kill the Rhinoceros as they do the wild elephant, by hamstringing it with their sharp weapons. Unlike the elephant, however, the Rhinoceros can run on three legs, so that a single cut will not disable him, but regardless of



ARAB SWORD-HUNTERS.

the danger they run, these brave fellows have been known to boldly dash up to a pair of these huge brutes, and with quick blows of their keen blades, disable both of them before they had time to turn for a charge.



HIPPOPOTAMUS.

THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.

In many of the large, broad rivers of Africa, and upon their marshy, reed-covered shores the HIPPOPOTAMUS is found.

It is one of the largest and heaviest of animals, and although clumsy, and apt to be timid while on land, it is at home in the water, where it swims and dives almost as easily as if it were a fish, instead of a huge beast weighing four or five tons.

The food of the Hippopotamus is the long, coarse grass which grows near the river's side. The usual feeding time for these animals is at night; they then come boldly out of the deep water, or the shallow, rush-covered marshes in which they have passed the day, and with lumbering steps make their way into the jungles and swamps to find their favorite food.

Travellers who have followed some of the great rivers of Africa to their source, tell of immense herds of Hippopotami which could be seen lazily basking on the surface of the water, or plunging into it from the banks with a tremendous splash, and loud snort of alarm, as the boats passed by.

The great beasts are ferocious when in the water and frequently attack

canoes, although they may be only paddling quietly up or down the stream. The following story of such an adventure is told by an African explorer:—

ATTACKED BY A HIPPOPOTAMUS.

We were upon the upper waters of the White Nile; the night was cool and the moon clear and bright; everyone aboard our little vessel was sound asleep, when suddenly, I was awakened by a tremendous splashing close to the boat, and heard the hoarse snorting of a furious Hippopotamus.

I jumped up, and at once saw the great beast close alongside, preparing to attack our vessel. My man, Suleiman, was lying fast asleep near the cabin door. I called to him for my rifle, but before he had time to get fairly awake the Hippopotamus dashed at us with the greatest fury. One blow from the huge head capsized, and sunk, the small boat which floated astern; in another instant, a shock that nearly upset us showed that our vessel itself was the object of its wrath, and that we would have to defend ourselves or the consequences might be serious.

At this moment, Suleiman appeared with my rifle: all hands were now awake and endeavoring to scare the Hippo by shouts and yells, but he continued to attack us with the blind fury of a bull-dog.

By the time I had secured the rifle, the movements of the animal were so rapid, as he charged and plunged beneath the water amid clouds of foam, that it was impossible to aim correctly at the small, fatal spot upon the head, but presently, as he charged straight at the boat, I stopped him with a bullet. To my surprise, he recovered and again commenced the attack. I fired shot after shot at him without effect, but at length, apparently badly wounded, he retired to the high grass; there, lying down in the shallow water, and snorting loudly.

Thinking he would die, I put away my gun, and had just lain down again when another tremendous splash, and a shock which made the whole vessel tremble from stem to stern, told us that the mad beast had again attacked us.

In another instant, I grasped my rifle, and as his great head appeared by the side of the boat, planted a bullet directly in the top of it. The effect was surprising; half out of the water came the ponderous body, and then over and over it rolled, sometimes with all four legs kicking above the surface, and making waves that rocked our craft as if it were in a storm.

In this helpless manner, the Hippopotamus rolled for about fifty yards down the stream, and we all thought that he was at last killed.

To our amazement, however, he again recovered, and we heard him splashing as he moved slowly along the bank through the high grass. There he remained, snorting and blowing, and as the distance prevented another shot I again lay down, having my rifle in readiness beside me.

In a short time I heard a disturbance in the water, and getting up, saw our enemy walking slowly across the river, in the shallows, and only about eighty yards distant. Having a fair shot at the shoulder, I fired twice and distinctly heard the bullets strike. He staggered forward a few steps



A BATTLE IN THE STREAM.

and fell dead; this time we were sure of him, and all hands turned in again and went to sleep.

In the morning, I made a careful examination of the carcass as it lay in the shoal water. It had received in all, eight bullets, three in the flank and shoulder, and five in the head, one of the latter having broken the lower jaw and cut off one of the large tusks.

I never saw such determined fury as was shown by this animal in his midnight attack: he appeared to be raving mad, and on looking him over we found ample evidence of his quarrelsome disposition, for upon his body

could be seen a complete network of frightful scars, the result of continued fights with bulls of his own species.

My men told me that the bull hippopotami will fight with the most savage fury, seizing each other in their great mouths, and inflicting fearful wounds with their powerful jaws and long tusks. Several of the wounds upon the dead beast were still unhealed; one being fully two feet in length, and about two inches deep.

Upon looking at his great jaws and tusks, I could not help thinking that during the fight he must have given as severe wounds as he received, and that a battle between two such powerful monsters would be well worth seeing.

Among the natives of the interior of Africa there are men who constantly hunt the Hippopotamus, and exchange the flesh of the animals they kill, for the grain that is grown by less courageous tribes.

A Hippopotamus hunt by these people is thus described by a traveller who saw it:—

SPEARING A HIPPOPOTAMUS.

The canoes of the Hippopotamus hunters were drawn up on the shore. Each carried two men: they were long, light craft, scarcely half an inch thick, and about twenty feet in length. Their width was not more than two feet at the broadest part, for they were shaped for speed, like one of our racing boats.

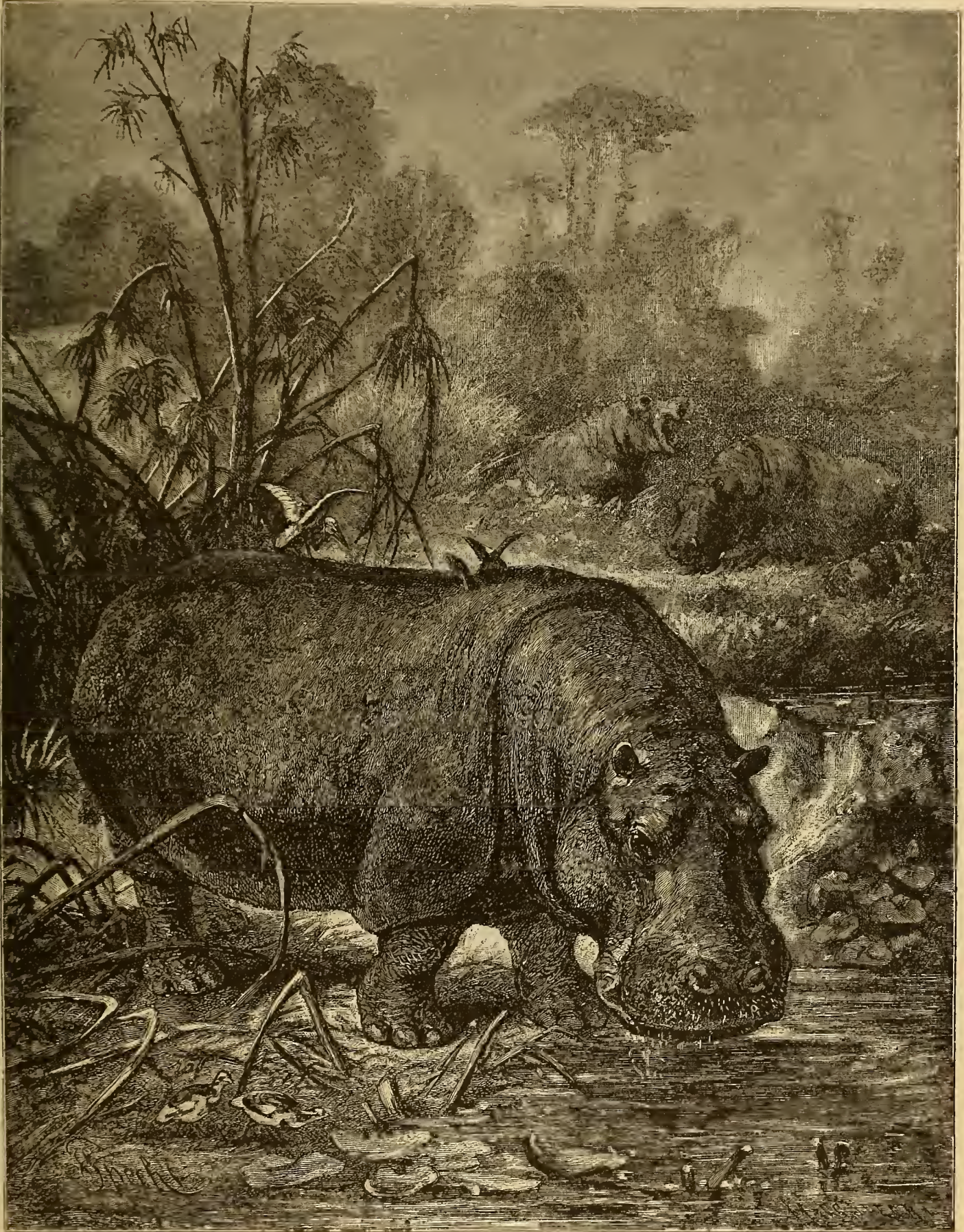
Seeing the head of a great Hippopotamus on the surface of the water, one of the canoes was hastily manned and pushed out into the river. The men crouched at each end of the frail vessel, and dipping their broad paddles noiselessly into the water, moved down towards the sleeping giant.

Not a single ripple was raised; the men looked as if holding even their breaths for fear of awakening the sleeping Hippopotamus.

As they drew near to it I saw the man in the bow make rapid signs to his companion, then, putting down his paddle, he rose cautiously to his feet and stood erect and motionless, holding a long spear raised at arm's length above his head.

During all this time he kept his balance exactly, for any sudden movement, to either right or left, would have instantly capsized the narrow boat and sent its daring crew sprawling into the river.

Not a sound broke the silence, till, coming close to the great beast, the



HIPPOPOTAMUS (Africa).

Length of head and body, 14 feet; length of tail, about 1 foot; color, bluish-gray.

spearman plunged his weapon with all his might toward its heart. With a tremendous splash the surprised and wounded Hippopotamus rose, and then fell back in the water, immediately disappearing under the surface. As soon as the spear had been cast the men grasped their paddles and backed away, expecting an attack from the animal; but, as it seemed to be



AT THE RIVER'S SIDE.

determined to remain at the bottom of the river, the hunters prepared for the most dangerous part of their work.

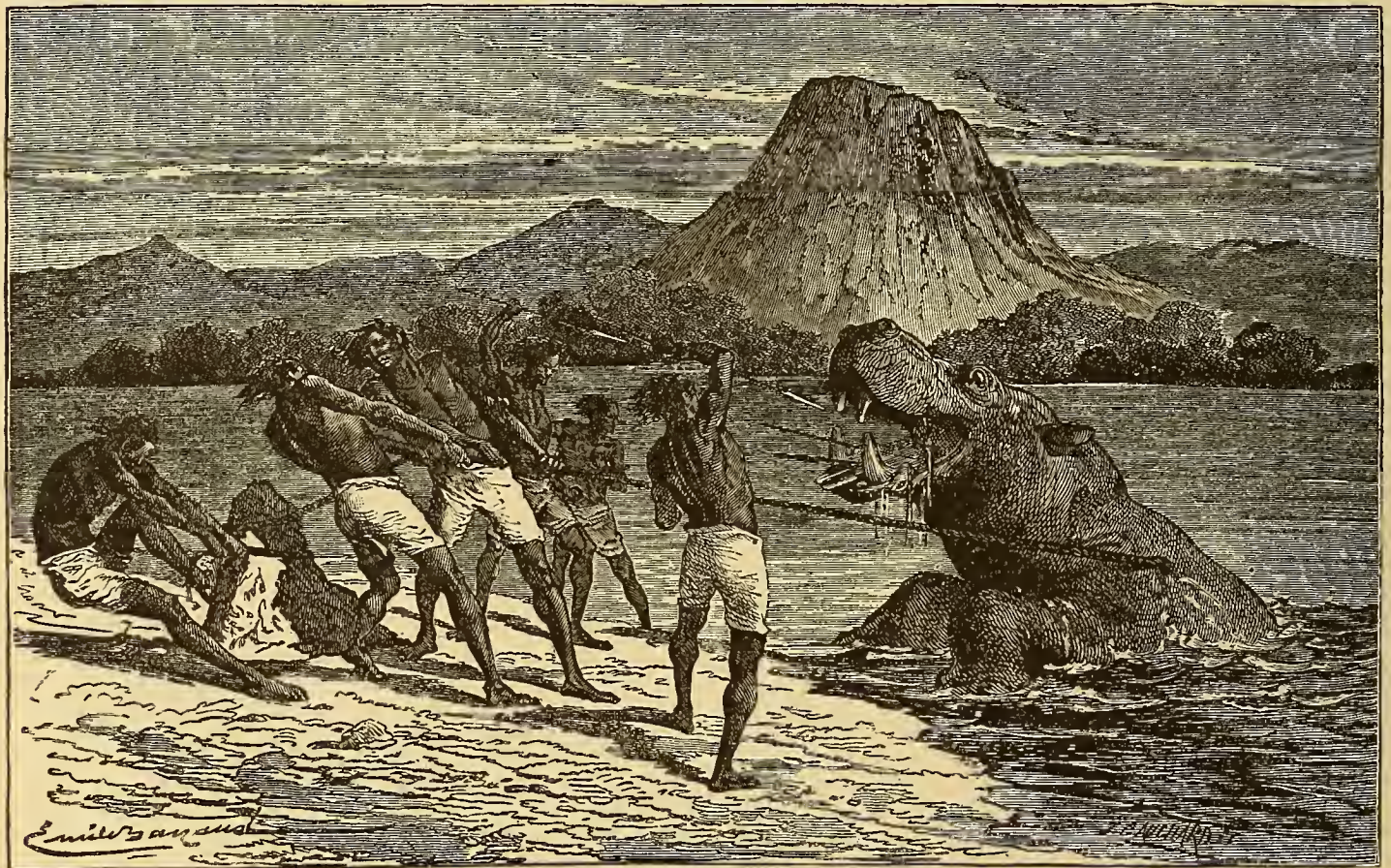
The spear that pierced the Hippopotamus had a barbed iron head, which loosely fitted the wooden handle, but was attached to it by a long rope. As soon as the iron head was firmly fixed in the flesh, the struggles of the Hippopotamus beneath the water loosened the wooden handle from



A POOL IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

the barbed point, and presently it floated on the surface, attached by its long rope, and showing to the hunters the exact position of their prey.

Cautiously the boat was paddled toward the floating shaft, the men looking down into the water as they advanced, to see, and avoid any rush from below. Soon they reached the spear handle, it was hastily lifted from the water and the canoe headed at full speed toward shore, when suddenly, a slackening of the line warned the hunters that the wounded animal was pursuing them.



DRAGGED ASHORE.

In another instant, a hoarse grunt was heard, and the enormous head of the stricken monster appeared above the water, close behind the boat. The canoe darted swiftly forward, and just avoided the onward rush of the great jaws; another spear was launched from the stern, and soon two shafts floated on the water. Other canoes now put out from shore; the spear handles were seized, and the Hippopotamus dragged in different directions, until weakened from loss of blood, he was at last pulled upon the bank, and killed by showers of spears from the crowd of natives who fearlessly approached his wide gaping jaws.

The white man, armed with his heavy rifle, frequently kills the Hippopotamus with a single well directed shot. An African explorer says:—

A DANGEROUS VOYAGE.

We were crossing a broad river when we came suddenly upon a herd of Hippopotami. One of the huge beasts I had turned over on its back with a couple of bullets in the brain. It floated for an instant right alongside



ATTACKED BY AN ANGRY HIPPOPOTAMUS.

the boat, with its short, thick legs kicking in the air, and then slowly sank out of sight. Meanwhile, another of the herd was advancing toward us as if determined to avenge the death of its companion.

The ugly head of the great beast was within a few feet of our boat, with jaws opened widely to crush its side, when, hastily pointing my rifle into the gaping throat of the enraged monster, I pulled the trigger.

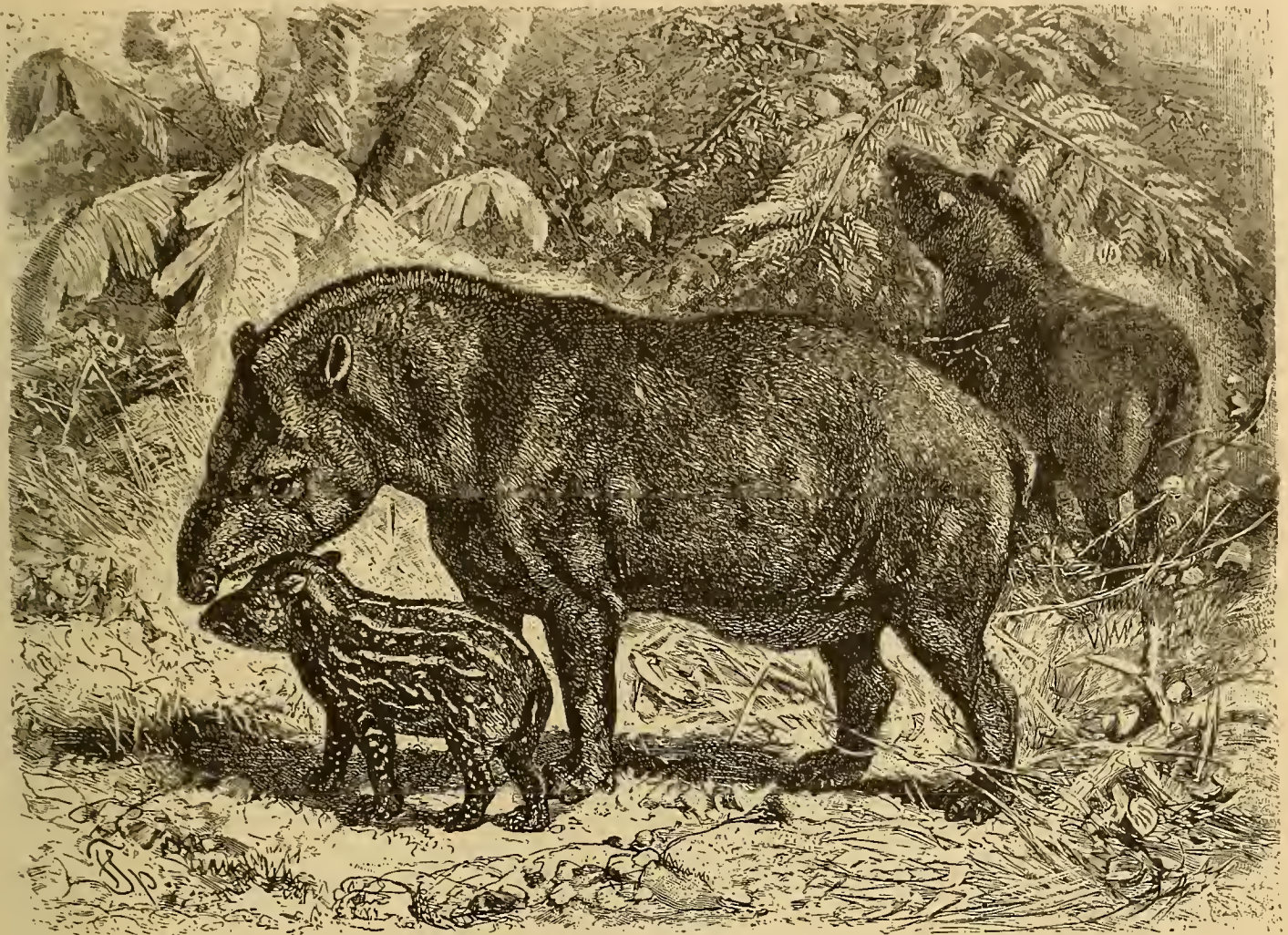
Backward it dashed amid a cloud of spray that wet me to the skin, and looking down, we could see it struggling madly in the water.

I now ordered the men to paddle for their lives, the boat jumped ahead, and soon we had left the dangerous locality far behind; arriving on the other side without being again attacked.

The White Nile is famous for its man-killing Hippopotami. On one occasion, some villagers were waiting the return of their chief, who had been on a visit of ceremony across the river, when to their horror a large Hippopotamus appeared, and rushing upon the boat, seized it and the chief, crushing both. On another occasion a man had entered the water to bathe, when a Hippopotamus, which had been in concealment near by, rushed at him, biting him in two as a shark might have done. The motive of the animal is simply wild rage, which causes it to attack any intruder without regard to its size. A well-known official reported that all his boats had been damaged by these animals during three years' experience on the Nile.

One instance was somewhat singular. They were towing, behind their vessel, a large boat containing a load of live sheep. For some reason a Hippopotamus became enraged and rose beneath it, smashing a large hole in the bottom and drowning every one of the animals. Upon another occasion, the officer was traveling in a large dug-out, twenty-seven feet long, and at least two or three feet thick. In passing through some high grass a Hippopotamus charged the boat, actually lifting the heavy craft bodily out of the water.

Several years ago a British officer was proceeding up the Nile in a boat, towed by a steamer, when a Hippopotamus charged the steamer in broad daylight, evidently protesting against its passage over its domain. It seized the paddle wheels in its huge jaws, crushing them, and then sank to reappear at the stern of the vessel, where it seized the keel, and though it was iron-plated perforated the bottom in two places. The leaks were so large that the steamer threatened to sink, and was only saved after a vast amount of trouble and labor.



SOUTH AMERICAN TAPIR.

Total length 6 feet; height 3 feet; color brownish-black. The curious, flexible snout of this animal is used in plucking the leaves and twigs upon which it feeds.

THE TAPIR.

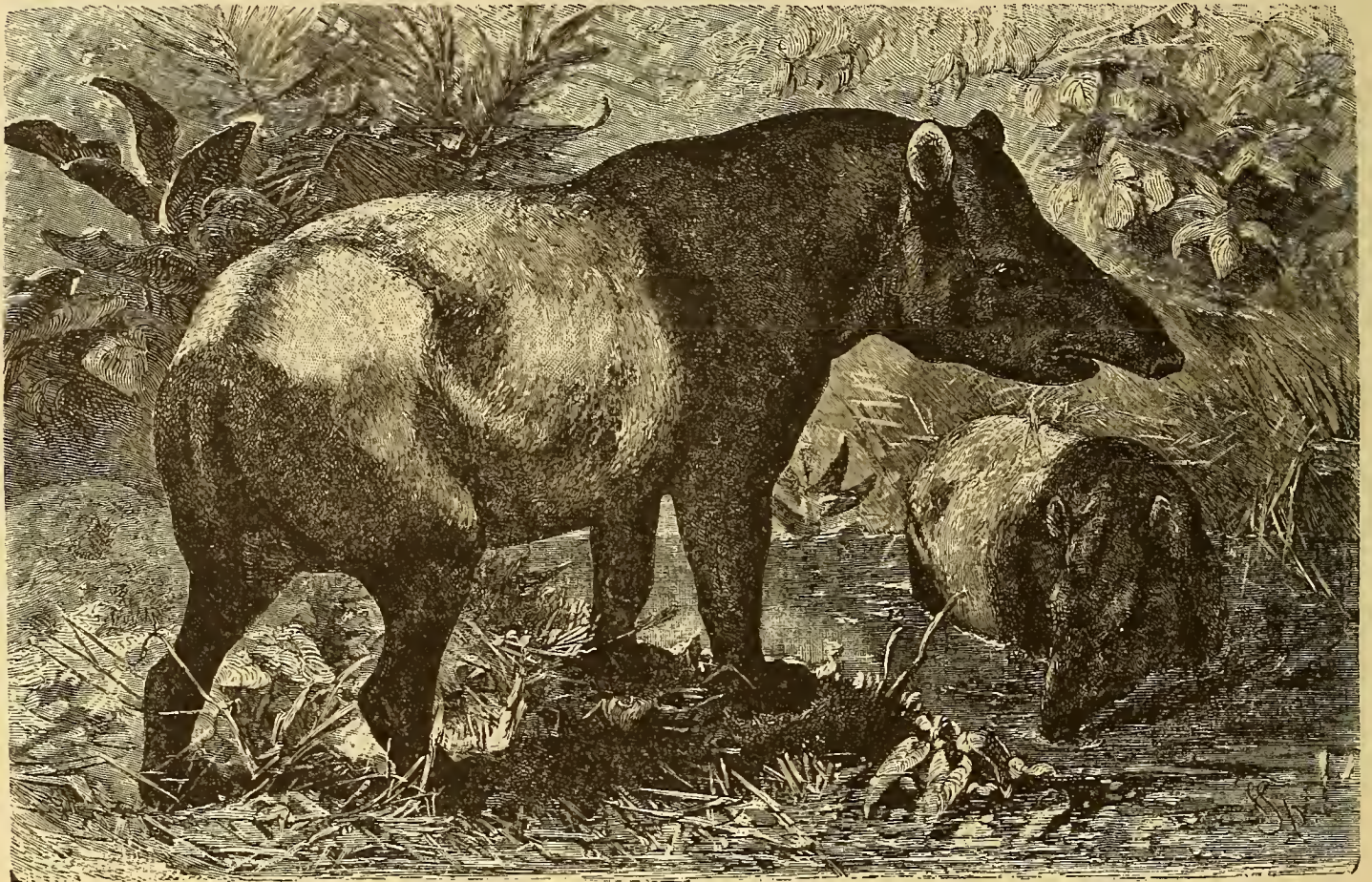
The shape of the TAPIR's body reminds us somewhat of the pig, for it is round and heavy, and is mounted upon short, stout legs, but it is a much larger animal than the pig, and its long neck, four-toed feet, and curious, short, elephant-like trunk or snout, show that it belongs to quite a different species.

Tapirs are found only in two parts of the world, South America; the Malayan Peninsula, and adjoining islands of Sumatra and Borneo.

The most common variety of South American Tapir is dark brown, or nearly black, in color, with white marking upon the jaws and upper edges of the ears. It is extremely fond of the water and is an excellent swimmer. Of very shy nature, it is the habit of this animal to pass most of the

day sleeping in the cool shade of the deepest forests, coming forth only at sunset to feed. Its food is the rank herbage which grows in the moist ground near the rivers; and so fond is it of all sorts of young shoots, leaves and fruit, that it sometimes causes great damage to the plantations that may be near its haunts.

The skin of the Tapir is very thick and is valued for the leather made from it. The flesh, although used for food by the Indians, is coarse and dry. When hunting the animal, the natives generally hide near a path which



TAPIR; Malacca, Borneo and Sumatra.

Height $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet; total length about 8 feet; color black and white.

leads to the water, and attack it in the evening as it comes down to drink and bathe. It is a heavy, powerful creature, and is said to give the dogs a hard fight before it is subdued.

The Tapir of Borneo and Sumatra is somewhat larger than the South American variety, and is a much handsomer animal, having the hair of the head, shoulders, and legs glossy black, and the body pure white. Little is known of its nature and habits, as it lives in the densest swamps and jungles, but in these it probably resembles the South American Tapir.



ZEBRA; Africa.

This is the true Zebra (as distinguished from Burchell's Zebra). It has a white coat marked with black stripes, and is less horse-like in shape than the other, bearing a greater resemblance to the Ass. It stands over four feet high at the shoulder. It is seldom found upon the plains but frequents the hill country, choosing the wildest and most rugged regions.

THE ZEBRA.

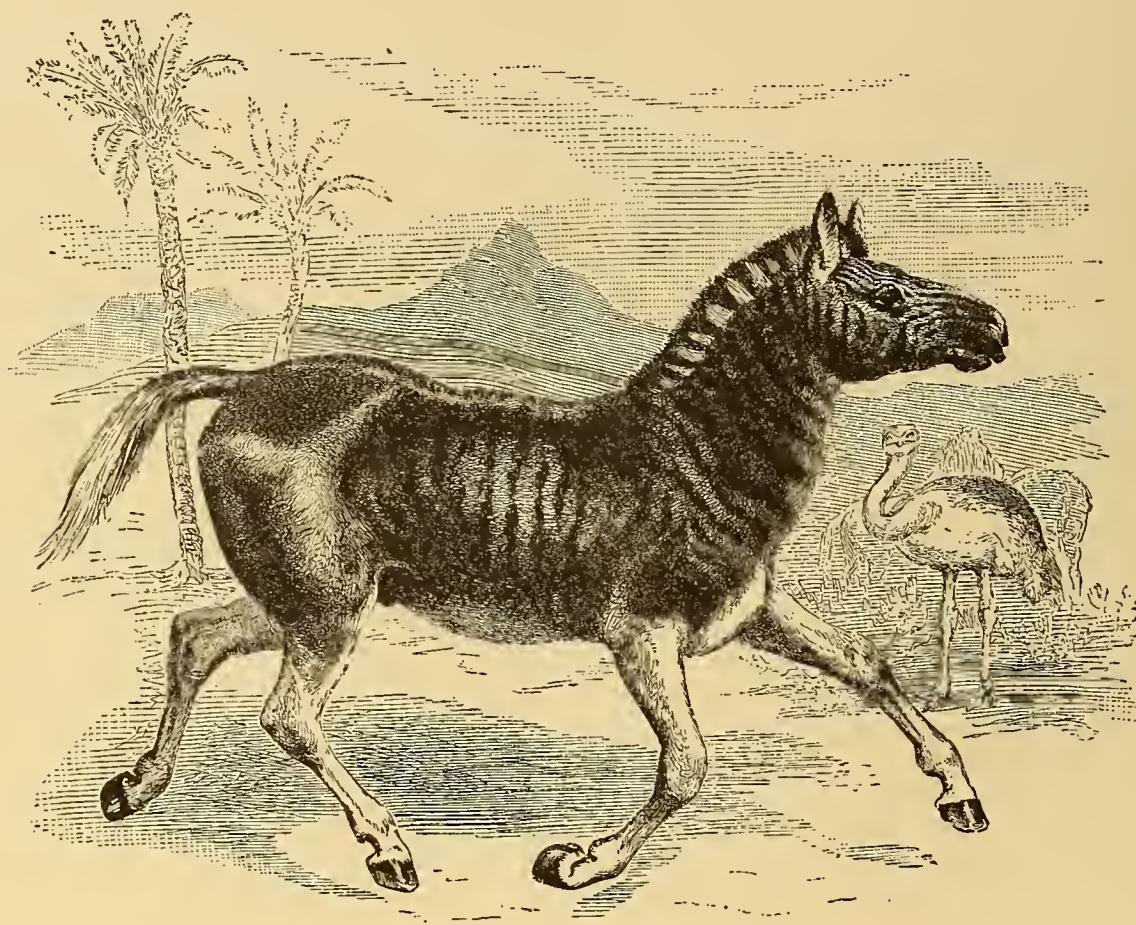
A beautiful animal, both in color and in form, is the gaily-striped ZEBRA. It is interesting also because looking so much like a horse, and one cannot help thinking, as they trot across the plain, how handsome a pair of them would look in harness.

Unfortunately, their wild nature prevents their being used, like their near relation the patient donkey, for the service of man, but once in a while, at a circus or menagerie, they may be seen trained to pull a little gilded car.

The Zebra is at home in the hilly parts of Southern Africa; travellers say that herds of one hundred or more are sometimes met with. They are very wild, and upon the slightest alarm dash away at a speed that

would leave any but a fast horse far behind. The Zebra is of the size and shape of a good-sized pony. Its cream-white coat is marked all over with regular, velvety-black stripes; the head and legs as well as the body having a share of this fanciful coloring.

There is another horse-like creature, called the QUAGGA, which closely resembles the Zebra, but is not so handsomely marked. Its legs and tail are white in color, and the upper part of the body and head reddish-brown, banded with dark brown stripes.



QUAGGA; Southern Africa.

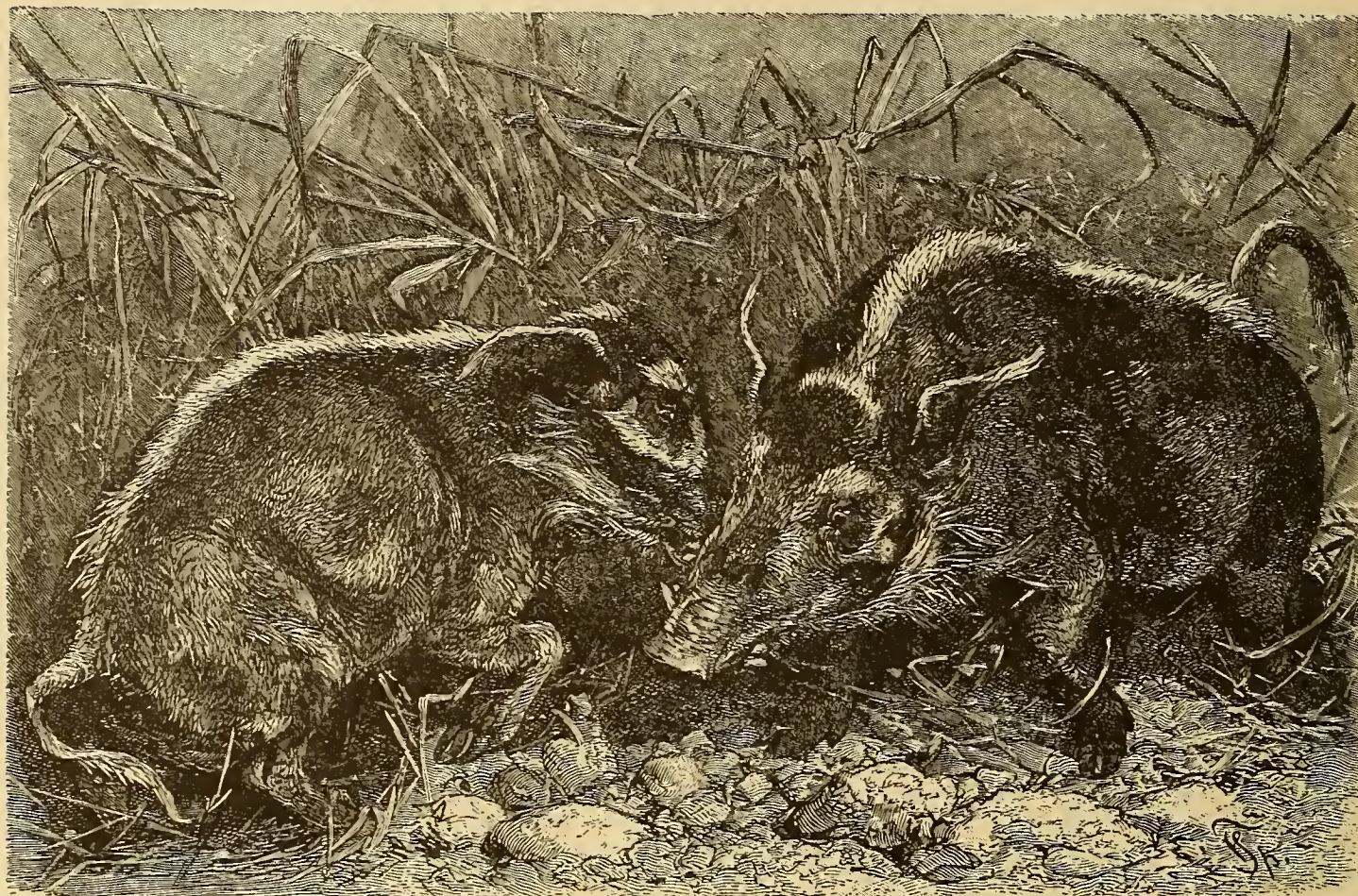
Height at the shoulder $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; total length of body and tail 8 feet.

These animals are also like the Zebra, in living together in herds of thirty to one hundred. No doubt they could be trained to submit to bit and bridle, and would be of service to man, if the countries in which they are found, instead of being in the possession of wild, native tribes, were inhabited by a people who possessed the patience and intelligence necessary to train them. But, useless as these different kinds of wild asses may be, they at least form a beautiful picture as they gallop across the plain; their bright coats and graceful forms rendering less unattractive to the eyes of the traveller, the desert regions in which they are found.



BURCHELL'S ZEBRA, OR DAUW (Africa).

Size, the same as a small horse; color, light dun above, with black stripes, lower portions white. It is common throughout Africa, herds of from eighty to one hundred being usually found together.



BUSH-HOG: Africa.

This species of wild-hog is found in the forests of Central and Southern Africa. It is somewhat smaller than our ordinary domestic breeds; in color it is usually brown with white marking.

THE WILD BOAR.

There is no creature that is more widely distributed over the whole world than the pig; and although the savage WILD BOAR, with his long, sharp tusks and active frame, does not look much like the plump porker in the farmer's pen, yet they are very near relations.

The contrast between the two, is due more to their different food and surroundings than to any difference in their natures. If the fattest and laziest pig that ever grunted contentedly in the straw of his comfortable sty, was turned out to run in the woods, he would soon become wild, like his untamed relative; and although his short snout, and heavy body might for a long time mark him as having been bred for supplying good hams and bacon, rather than sport for the hunter, a few generations would change him into a savage beast that it might be dangerous to approach.



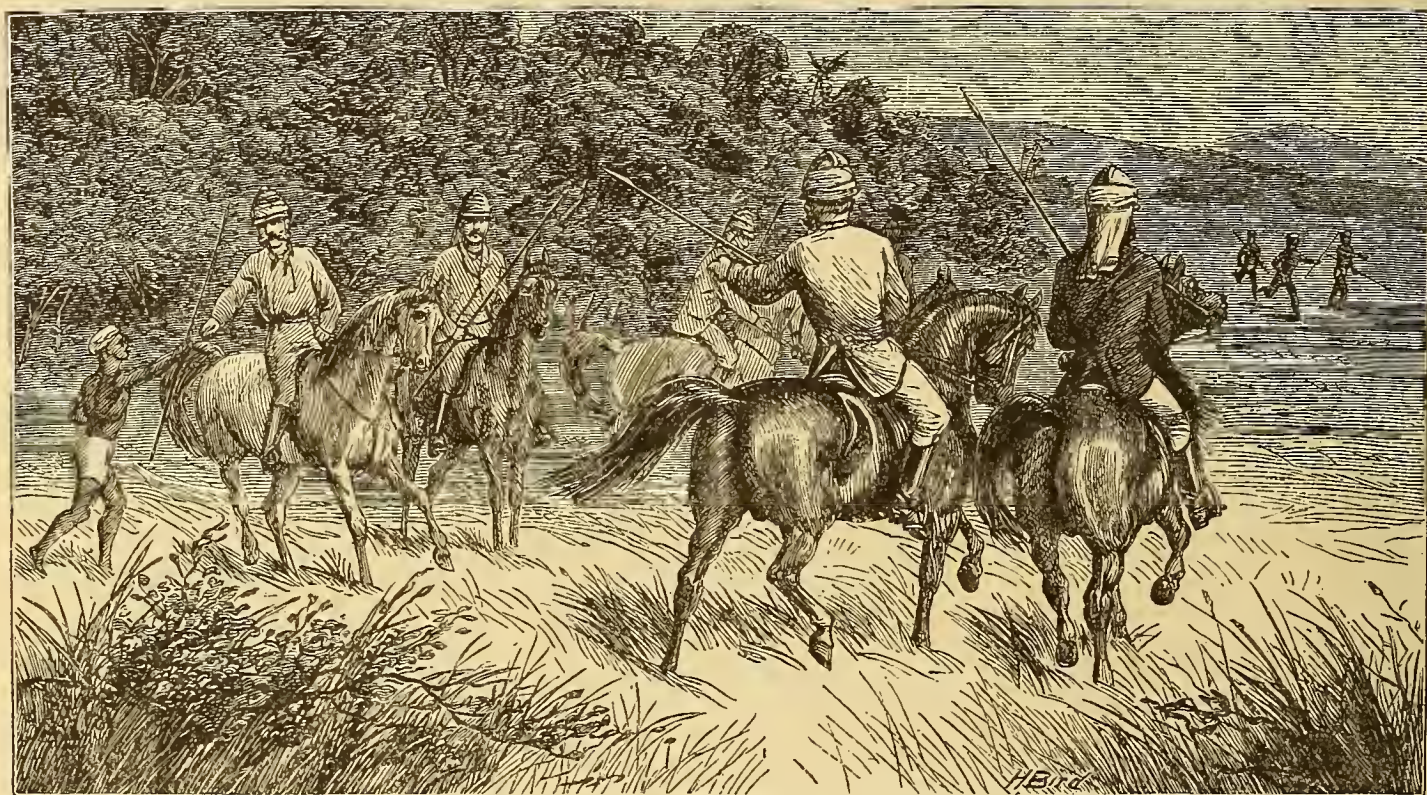
WILD BOAR (India).

Height at the shoulder, 3 feet; color, yellowish-brown.

In India, that land in which so many ferocious beasts are to be found, the Wild Boars grow to a very large size, and are so numerous that the rice fields and plantations have to be guarded at night by men stationed upon high platforms, raised on posts in the middle of the grounds. But for this precaution, the growing crops would be rooted up, and whole fields destroyed by the long, powerful snouts of the wild pigs.

A BOAR HUNT.

Boar hunting has long been a regularly established sport in India, much as fox hunting is in England and America. The hunters usually meet



MEETING FOR THE HUNT.

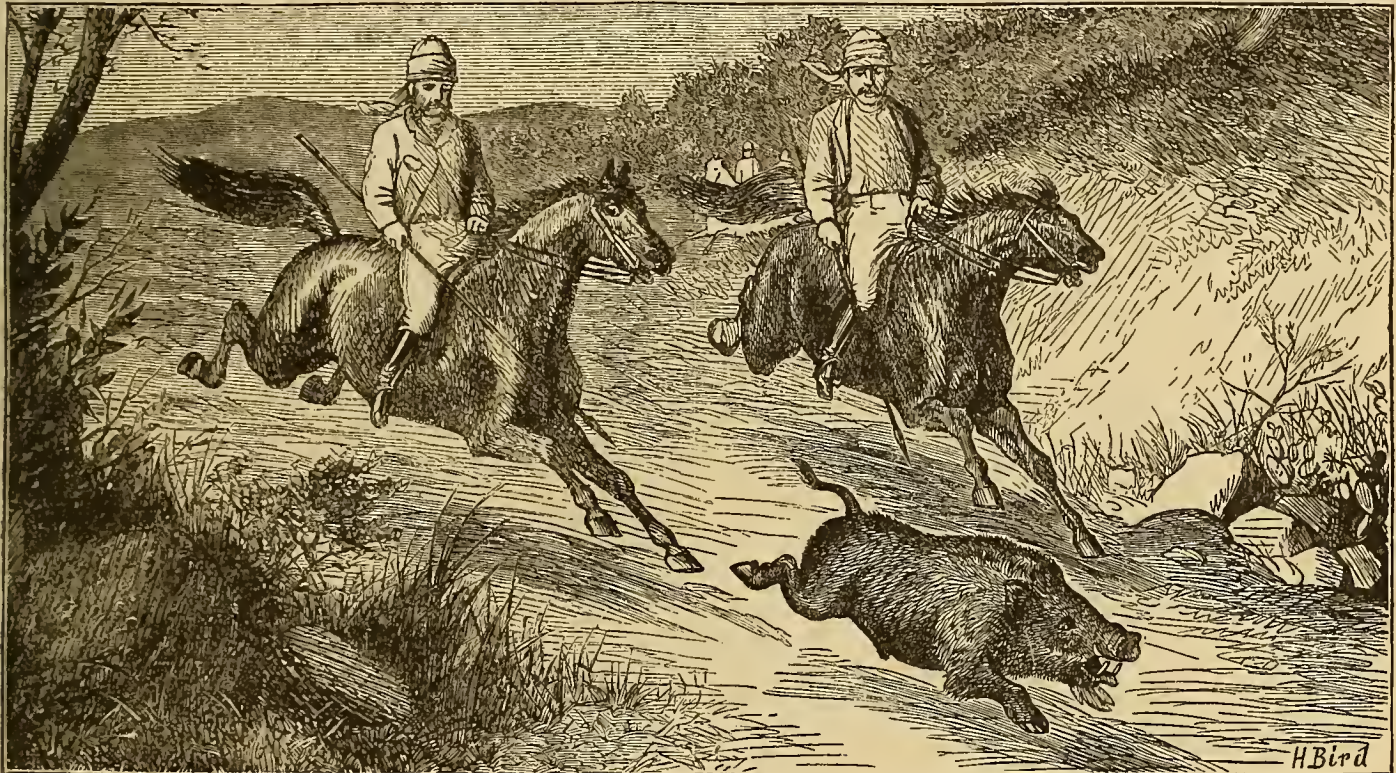
soon after daybreak at the jungle side, carrying spears which are about nine feet long, and mounted upon fleet and well-trained horses. When the spearmen have concealed themselves, the native scouts are sent into the jungle to drive out the game. This they do by beating tom-toms, blowing horns, and shouting as they advance slowly in the direction of the horsemen.

We shall suppose ourselves at the jungle side, waiting for the Boar to show himself, and listening intently to the shouts of the beaters, who are approaching the open ground, driving the game before them.

Soon the yells become louder, and we distinguish the cry of a beater—

"there goes the pig!" Then comes an anxious moment; the line of horsemen grasp their spears more firmly, and wait, impatient for the fray, all the while peering eagerly through the leaves and branches in the direction of the sounds.

Unwilling to leave his stronghold, and somewhat sulky at being disturbed so early in the morning, the Boar is almost always difficult to dislodge, and often breaks back and charges the line of beaters, but at last he makes a rush for the open and is seen trotting slowly along, a short distance in front of the beaters.



OFF AT FULL SPEED.

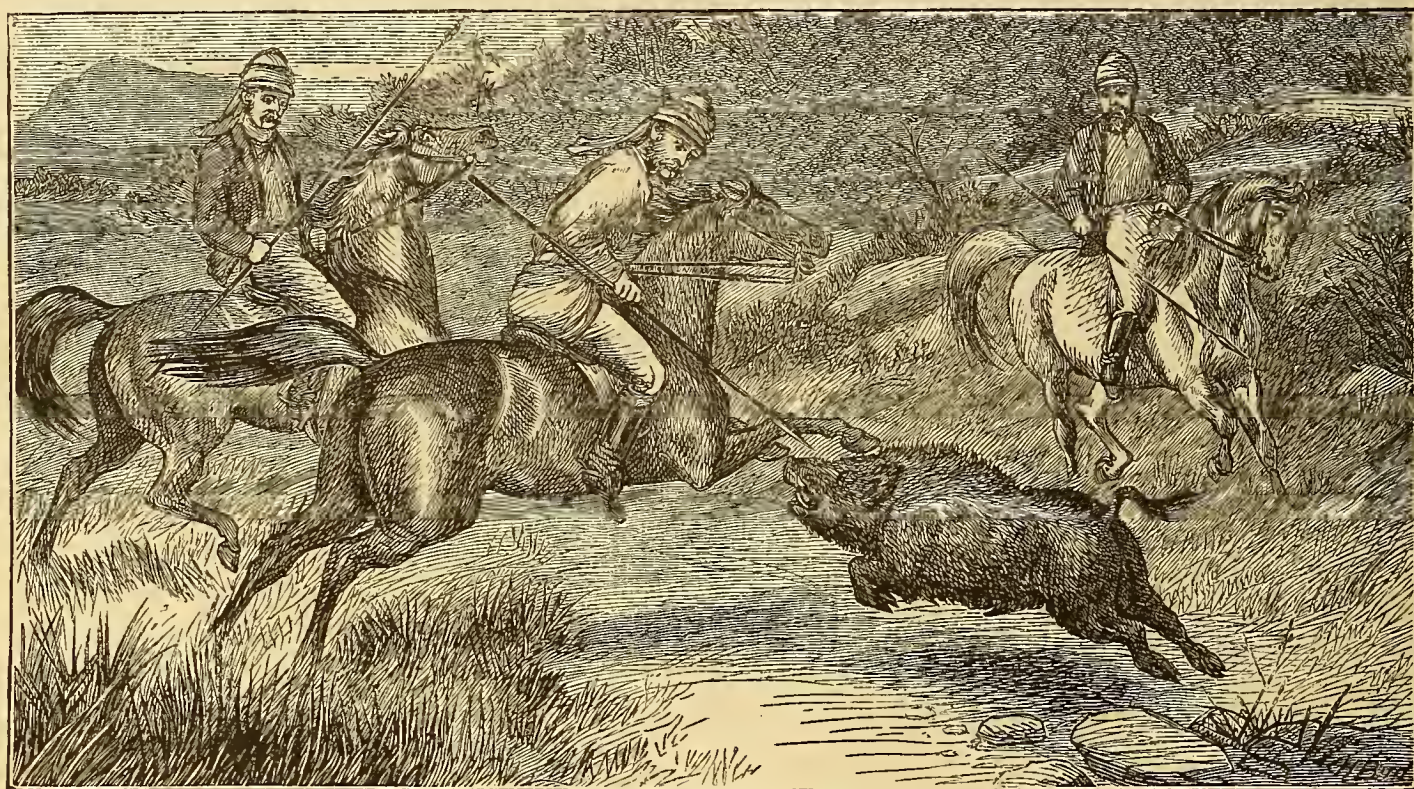
A report from a pistol, or note sounded on the bugle, is the signal to the hunters that the game is afield, and as soon as the master of the hunt thinks that the Boar has gained a fair start, he gives the word to advance.

The old Boar, which up to this time has been grunting savagely, scarcely seems to quicken his pace until the hunters begin to close in upon him, when he bounds away at a speed that no one, who has not actually witnessed his activity would believe possible.

Then comes the exciting moment, the rush of the hunters, each eagerly striving for the honor of first spearing the game. Perhaps twenty horsemen, with heads up, bridle hands down, and the points of their spears kept well forward, charge at full speed across the plain. An experienced

old hunter, mounted upon a beautiful Arab horse, which seems to enjoy the chase as much as its rider, follows every swerve of the Boar and forges slightly ahead so as to gain the near side—then, leaning forward in his saddle, the hunter drives his spear well home behind the shoulder blade of the flying brute, and rolls him over on his back in the dust.

If the spear penetrates the heart the Boar dies at once, but should a vital spot be missed, woe to those who follow unless they are prepared, for in the twinkling of an eye, the infuriated beast picks himself up, and with a wild roar charges open-mouthed at the nearest hunter. If the onset is not instantly met on the point of a spear, the chances are that one or



CHARGE OF A WOUNDED BOAR.

two horses will be badly ripped by the sharp tusks, and their riders may not wholly escape injury.

The Boar is one of the most courageous and fearless of forest animals, and when severely wounded seems to be utterly reckless of life, charging desperately upon the spear's point, and forcing its shaft half through his body in a last desperate effort to reach the hunter, so that he can bury his sharp tusks in the body of his foe.

Neither the lion nor the tiger will ever willingly attack a solitary Boar, unless they can pounce upon him unawares. His tenacity of life is also very great; sometimes he will receive a dozen severe spear wounds before

he rolls over dead. The best place to spear a boar, so as to reach a vital spot, is just behind the shoulder blade, low down, so that the spear point will touch the heart. An experienced Boar-hunter does not "jab" with his spear, he directs it only, and with a steady hand allows the force of his horse's rush to drive it home.

HUNTING WITH HOUNDS.

The Wild Boar is hunted in various ways, according to the condition of the ground in which he has his run. In forest countries he is usually followed on foot; the hunter being accompanied by two or more hounds



DEATH OF THE BOAR.

which attack the Boar, and keep him engaged until a stab from the sharp spear or hunting knife can end the fray.

None but courageous and well-trained hounds will face so dangerous an enemy as a full grown, savage old Boar; for he will never come to bay except in some recess in the tangled thorn bushes, or rocky cleft, in which he is protected from an attack in the rear, or at the sides. There he will come to a stand, and champing his ugly jaws, grunt defiance at his foes.

In this position it would be almost sure death for a hound to rush to the attack, and the most experienced among them would certainly refuse to

enter the deadly enclosure, unless halloosed on by his master; then, if urged by the well-known voice, he would fly straight into the jaws of death; but if left to his own discretion, he will join in the chorus of barks around the entrance and watch for a favorable opportunity, which would come when the Boar made a charge, and left for an instant his secure retreat.

Then, just at the right moment, with a spring from one side, the dog would jump across the shoulder of the Boar and seize the ear upon the opposite side, thus pulling the Boar's head around in a contrary direction to the dog's own body and preventing contact with the deadly tusks.

This, says an authority upon the subject, is the high art of seizing, and comes natural to some dogs, but can never be taught.

SAVED BY A KNIFE THRUST.

An adventure with a Wild Boar is thus described by a hunter who has successfully attacked many of these fierce brutes in the jungles of India.

I started one morning on foot, with my Boar spear and two good hounds, to find a savage old Wild Boar that frequented a dense thorny jungle near my camp.

This same old fellow had been driven out in the open a few days before, but, after gashing several of the dogs, had rushed back into the wood again and defied all efforts to dislodge him.

I made up my mind that this day's hunt would not end in that manner; and immediately upon reaching the place where he had last been seen, I sent the two dogs into the cover to find him. It was some time before any sound from the hounds was heard. At last a distant note told me that they had found the trail, and in about ten minutes a chorus of barks proclaimed that the Boar was at bay.

It was my custom, when hunting with dogs, to wait in the open until the moment the combat began between the hounds and the Boar, and then to make my way as speedily as possible to the battle ground. Accordingly I now began to tear my way through the dense jungle of bamboo grass, which consisted of long creeping stems, tangled together so thoroughly that it was only with the greatest difficulty I could make any progress.

The Wild Boar had evidently turned to bay, after a short run, within a jungle composed of this almost impenetrable growth.

Having broken my way through with great exertion, until I was be-

tween five or six yards of the "bay," I hallooed the dogs on, and in a few moments heard the sound of loud grunts and angry yells, which told me that the powerful hounds had sprung upon the boar, regardless of his cuts and thrusts, and were now engaged in a most desperate conflict.

There was no time to lose, so with my hunting knife drawn, for I had been obliged to leave the spear behind on account of the thick bamboo grass, I tore my way through the tangled jungle, and almost immediately found myself in the presence of an immense boar. As he faced me, fiercely snarling, with gleaming tusks and foaming jaws, he was a terrible object.



THE BOAR BREAKS AWAY AND RUSHES FORWARD.

Without a moment's hesitation he made a furious effort to charge. So sudden was his spring, that, being unexpected by the dogs, they lost their hold, and for a moment the boar was free.

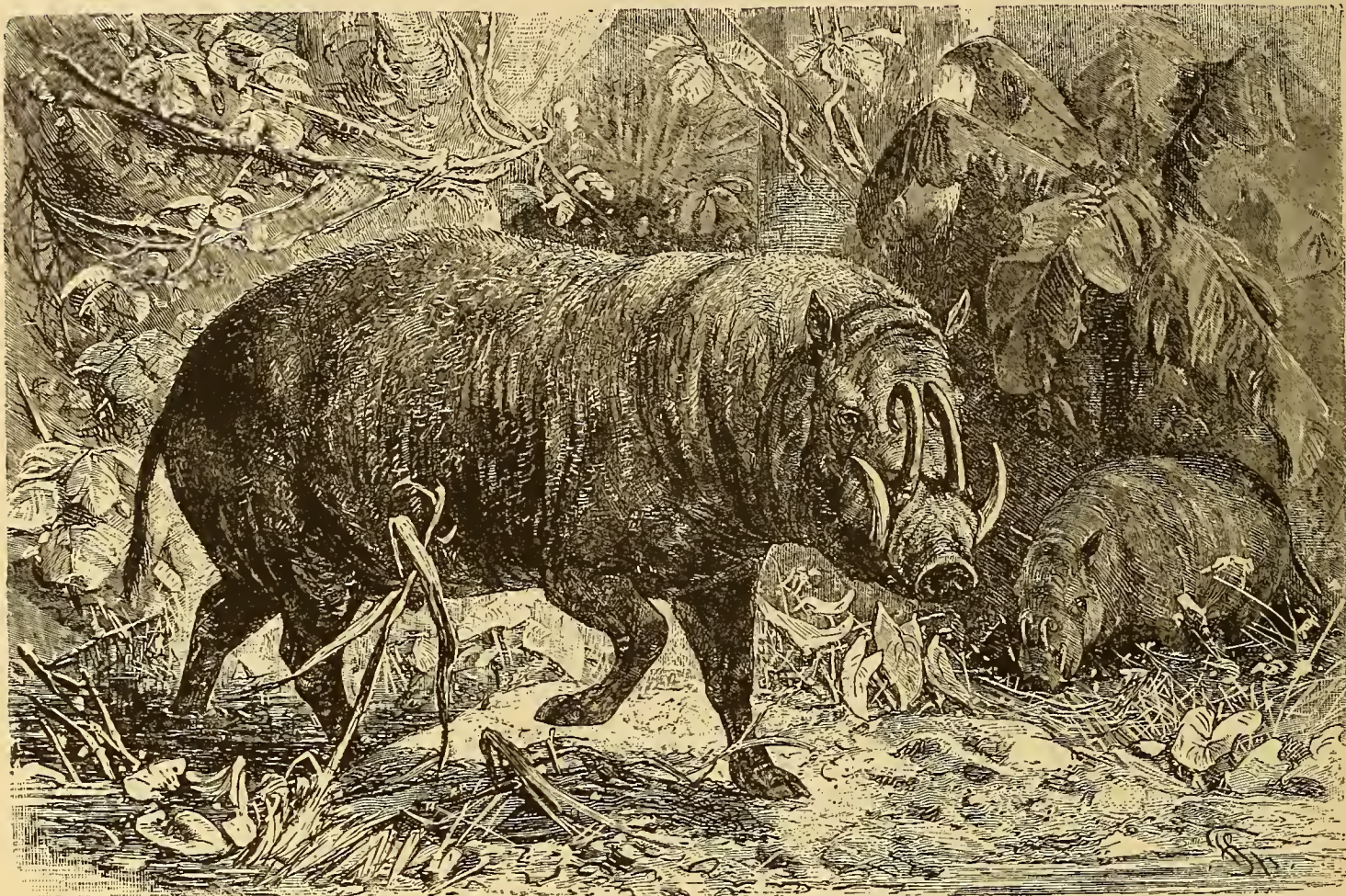
I had hardly time to jump to one side, when the brute rushed at me. Narrowly escaping his tusks as he dashed past, I delivered a tremendous cut with the heavy knife across his back, just behind the shoulders.

The keen edge of the blade happened to strike a joint in the backbone, and the body being stretched in the act of leaping forward, the spine was cut clear through and the boar fell dead.

This, the narrator of the adventure goes on to say, was the narrowest

escape I ever experienced while boar-hunting, and but for quick action on my part must have ended very seriously.

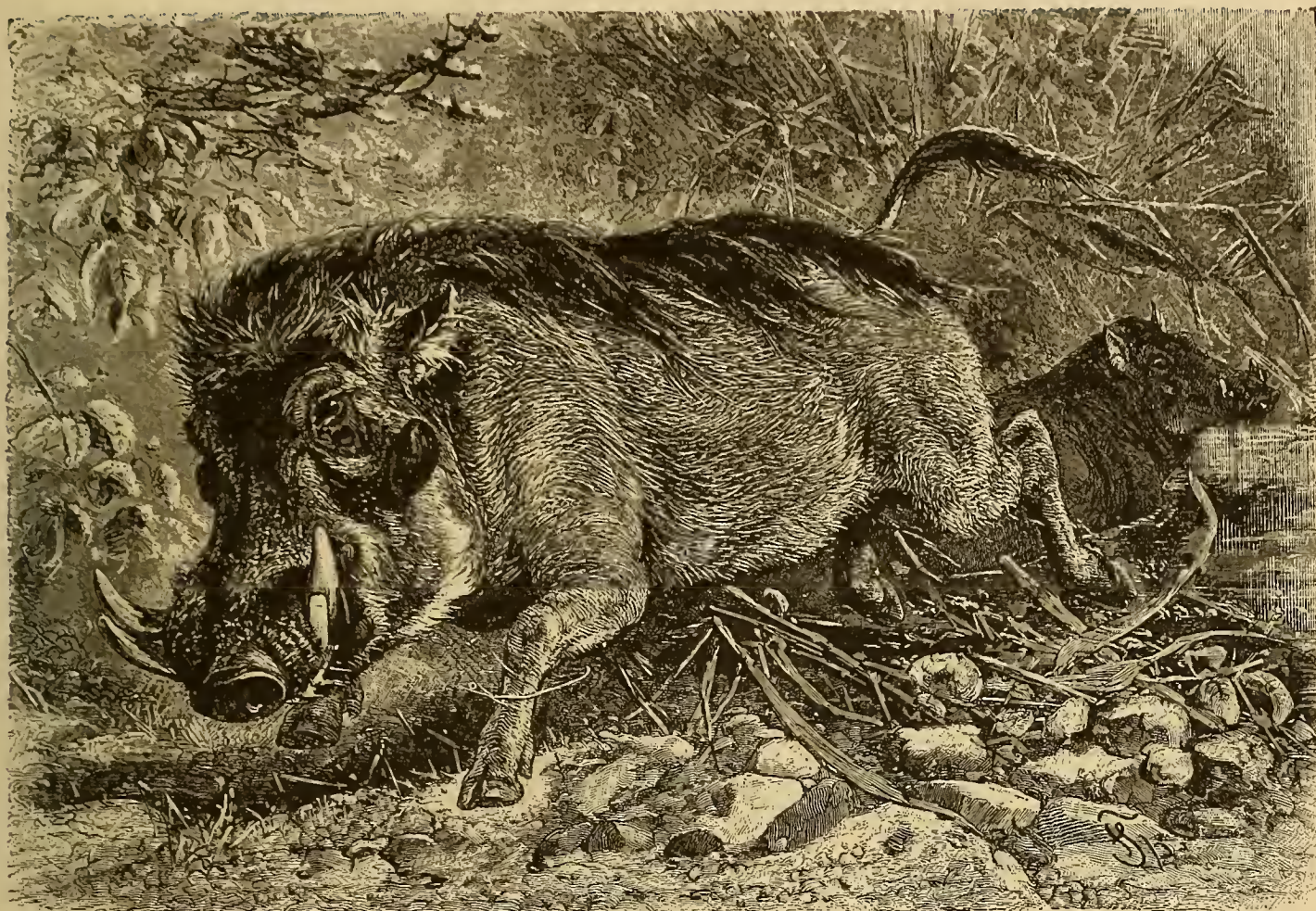
Although there is a great variety in the breeds of tame pigs, there is little difference between the wild hogs of Europe and Asia; but there are several distinct species which require special description.



BABIRUSSA ; Borneo.

The name of this animal means Pig-Deer: it is so called by the natives on account of its slender legs and great speed. In size it resembles the domestic pig; the skin is almost hairless. Its most remarkable feature are the long, curved tusks which grow from the upper jaw, and apparently serve no useful purpose.

The BABIRUSSA is one of these. It is a strange-looking creature, having two long tusks which grow from the upper jaw, curving upward instead of down. These would appear to be rather a hindrance than a weapon of offence, as the points are turned completely under, and by their position interfere with the cutting tusks below, consequently dogs are seldom much injured when they attack the Babirusa. It takes to the water readily, often escaping the hunter by swimming, and is much less savage in its nature than the Wild Boar.



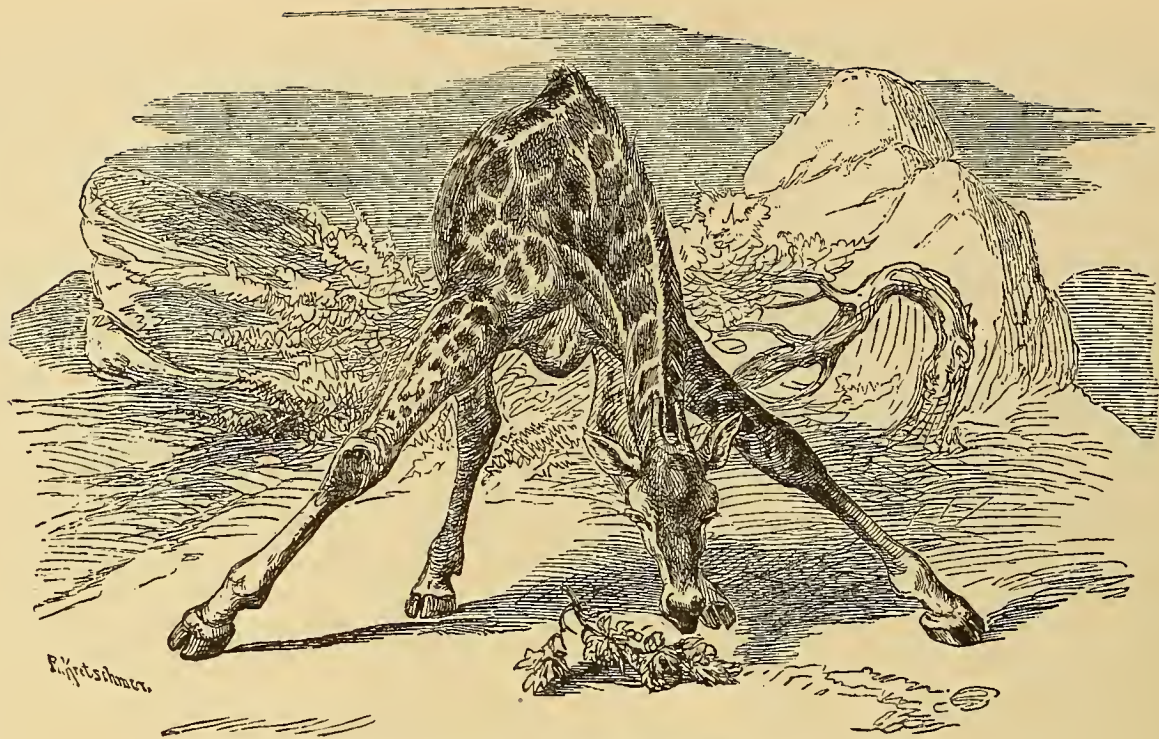
WART-HOG; Africa.

To this creature probably belongs the distinction of being, for its size, the ugliest animal in the world. It takes its name from the wart-like growths which grow beneath its eyes. The large tusks project 6 to 8 inches from the jaws, and are used chiefly for digging in the ground for soft roots, which form its food. Height at the shoulder $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color reddish-brown.

The WART-HOG of Central and Southern Africa is another strange species of wild pig. It is often called the ugliest animal in the world, and a glance at its picture will satisfy every one that it deserves this title.

Its enormous head and tusks look as if made for a beast twice its size; hideous warts grow out beside each eye; its rough skin is covered with a scant growth of harsh bristles, and its long thin tail, which it holds stiffly upright when alarmed and running away, adds the finishing touch to its ridiculous appearance.

In America the PECCARY is the only wild hog that is native to our woods. It is found in Texas and Mexico; and also in South America. It is a small and valueless variety, but, owing to its habit of roaming about in large herds, which will make a savage attack upon any man or beast that injures one of their number, it may be dangerous to attack.



GIRAFFE FEEDING FROM THE GROUND.

THE GIRAFFE.

Nature has provided the GIRAFFE with the longest neck of any animal in the world, to enable it to reach far up among the branches of the trees for its food. It does not eat grass or low-growing plants, but feeds upon leaves and tender twigs. Only with great difficulty can the creature bend its lofty head to the ground, and nothing but the most tempting morsel will cause it to do so. The strange position that it then assumes is shown in the above picture.

Not only is the neck of the Giraffe of extraordinary length—measuring six feet in full grown specimens, but the legs are also so long that they almost look like stilts, and the total height of the animal is enormous. It is the tallest creature in the world, a full grown male measuring nineteen feet from the crown of its head to the ground.

Although of such strange form, the Giraffe is a handsome beast, with fancifully marked coat of yellow and brown, and large dark eyes which excel those of any other animal in beauty and velvety softness.

It gazes, with these dark liquid orbs, upon the hunter who may have wounded it, with such an expression of helpless reproach, as to spoil whatever pleasure may have been afforded by the successful shot, except to the most hardened of game killers.



GIRAFFE (Africa).

Height, from the crown of the head to the ground, 19 feet; color, yellow, brown and white.

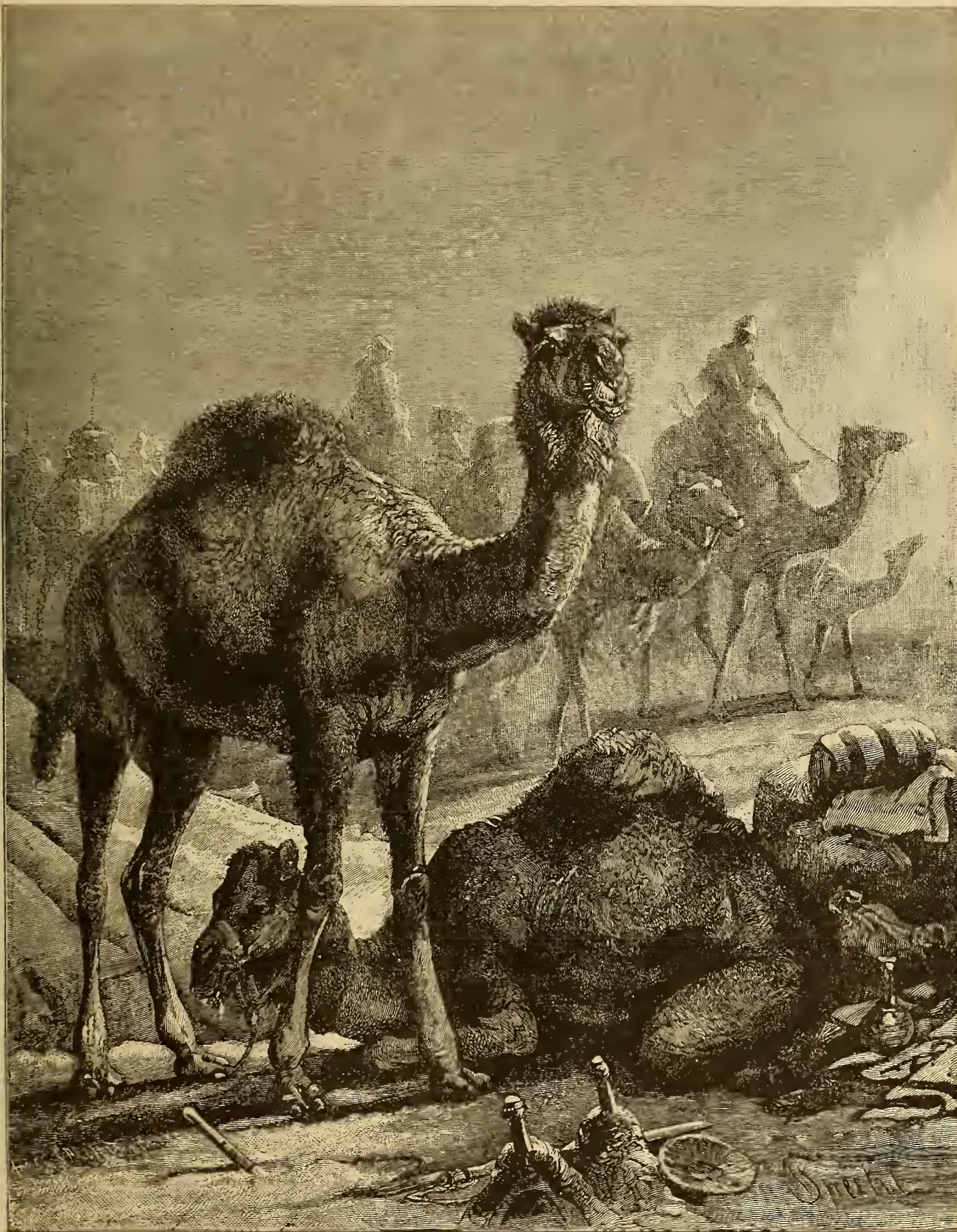


BACTRIAN CAMEL; Asia.

The two-humped, or Bactrian Camel is larger and heavier than the swift Dromedary of the Desert, and to fit it for the colder climate in which it lives it is provided with a heavy coat of hair. Its height, measured from the hump, is fully 8 feet; color light brown.

THE CAMEL.

Where the hot sands of the desert stretch away for hundreds of miles, and glisten under the rays of a burning sun, the CAMEL is to be found. In these dry regions it is of the greatest usefulness to man. But for this animal, with its wonderful power to travel for three or four days without water, while carrying a heavy burden, or human rider upon its back, it would be impossible for man to cross these wastes of heated, stifling sand. It has even been said that gold, and precious stones, are not the real riches of the East, but that the Camel is its chief treasure. In fact, this useful creature not only feeds the inhabitants of Eastern countries—both with its milk and flesh, but furnishes clothes for them as well, from its long, soft hair.



CAMEL, OR DROMEDARY (Africa and Arabia).

Height, measured from the hump to the ground, 7 feet; color, sandy-brown. The Camel is not found in a wild state in Africa or Arabia, and for ages has been the servant of man. It is, however, of surly and revengeful nature, possessing none of the intelligence and tractability of the horse.

It is, however, as a steed for riding, and as a beast of burden, that it is principally used. Without the Camel, those nations which are separated from each other by sandy deserts could not trade together; and without it the Arab could not even live, in the dry, sun-scorched regions in which he dwells.

During a march across the desert, where no wells or springs of water can be found, the Camel will carry a load of from five to six hundred



BACTRIAN CAMEL,—KNEELING FOR ITS LOAD.

pounds, and will travel twenty-five miles each day for four days without drinking. The evening before starting on a journey of this kind, the Arab gives his Camel all the water it can take; this supply is stored away in cells within its stomach, and lasts for several days, as the animal has the power of using it, little by little, during its exhausting journey under the hot sun.

This curious power of the Camel has more than once saved the lives of its owners. When crossing the desert, travellers sometimes use up all the

water they have carried with them, and the next well, from which they had intended to refresh themselves, and refill their goatskin water-bags, has been found to be dry, and the whole caravan seemed about to die from thirst.

Under these terrible circumstances, one chance of escape is left them; they kill a Camel, and from its stomach obtain water enough to sustain



LLAMA (GUANACO); Mountainous Regions of South America.

Height at the shoulder 4 feet; color brown. It is much smaller than the Camel; has no hump upon its back, and is more slender and deer-like in form. It is very useful to the Peruvians; carrying burdens on the roads across the mountains, and over the narrow, difficult passes of the Cordilleras; being wonderfully sure of foot. They are slow beasts, however, and carry not more than 160 pounds weight. They are also of a stubborn, irritable nature and cannot be hurried; if the whip is used to quicken their pace they are apt to fall to the ground, and refusing to get up, will submit to be beaten to death rather than rise and continue their journey.

life a little longer; perhaps enabling them to reach a well or fountain in which water still remains.

The Camels that are used only for riding are of a better breed than those which carry burdens. The difference, indeed, is almost as great as that between the race-horse and the slow-going cart-horse.

The legs of a swift, riding Camel are long and thin, the shoulders broad, the hump small, but firm and hard, and not a particle of fat is found upon its whole body. It is indeed, far from being a pretty animal, except to the eye of an Arab, who knows that its lank, ungainly form possesses a power and an endurance which will carry him, (without other burden), over fifty miles of sandy desert in a single day.

The foot of the Camel seems formed by nature for stepping upon the loose sand of the desert. Each of the two toes are tipped with a horny claw, and under them a single broad, spongy pad extends. This is covered with

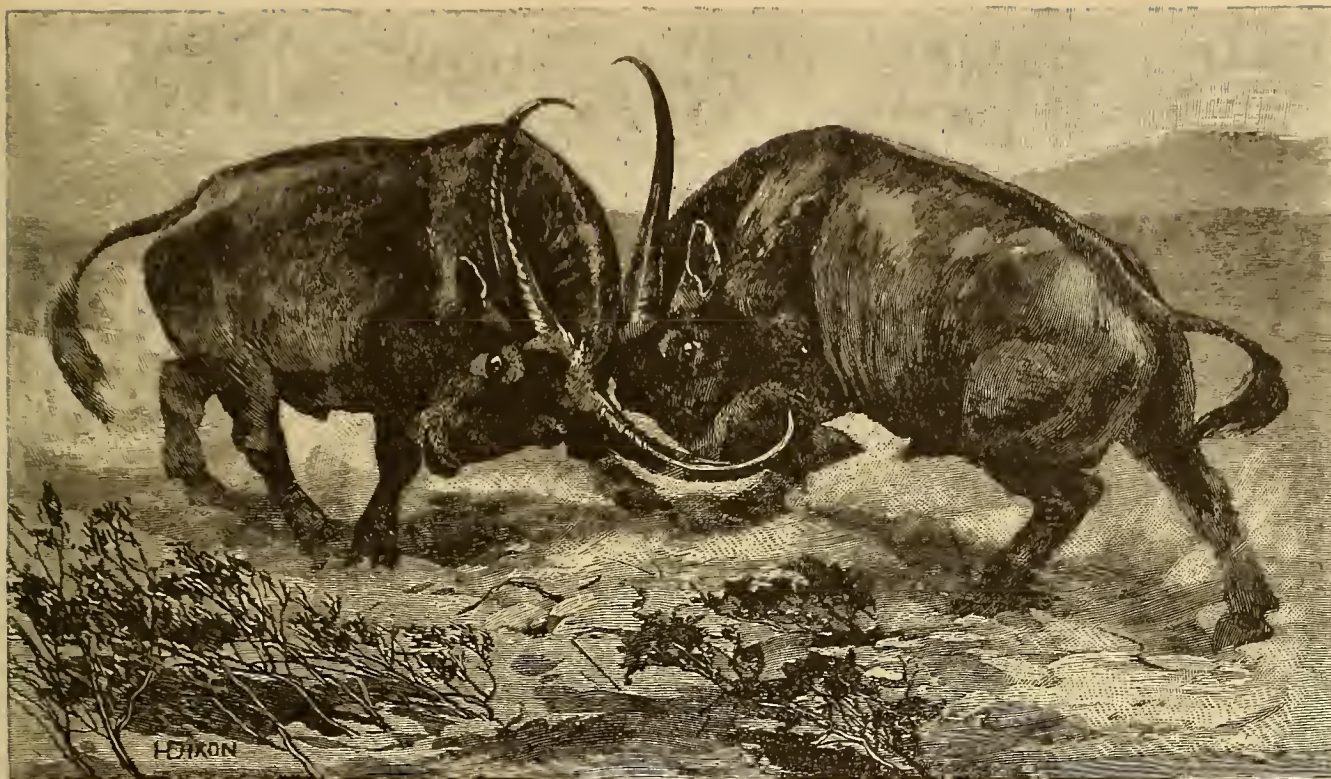


ALPACA (VICUNA); Mountainous Regions of Western South America.

Height at the shoulder about 3 feet; color brown. This species is principally valuable for its long silky wool, which is shipped in great quantities to other countries, and also furnishes the natives of Peru with material for their blankets and cloaks. From it the cloth known as alpaca was originally made.

rough skin which spreads and flattens under the animal's weight, thus giving a broad, flat foothold upon the surface of the yielding sand, into which the sharper hoofs of horses and oxen would sink.

Upon this Continent the Llama, and the Alpaca, of South America are the only representatives of the Camel tribe; they look but little like the Camels of the Old World. The wild, or undomesticated Llama is known by the name of GUANACO, or HUANACO; the wild Alpaca is called the VICUNA.



FIGHT BETWEEN INDIAN BUFFALOES.

THE BISON; BUFFALO; AND WILD OX.

Immense herds of BISON, or BUFFALO as the animal is usually called, once roamed over the vast prairies of North America, between the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains.

Although so short a time has passed, since these great brutes wandered at will through this region, that many persons, now living, remember having seen the plains covered with their dark and shaggy forms, not a single Buffalo can now be found, except in a few private enclosures and menageries, where, kept as curiosities, the last feeble remnant of this once mighty race lead quiet and uneventful lives.

In shape and appearance the American Buffalo differs from all other animals of the ox tribe, in having high and massive shoulders, covered with a mane of long, dark brown hair. This shaggy coat hangs down over the eyes, and partly conceals the horns of the fully grown bulls, so that the head appears to be of enormous size. The black-bearded chin, savage-looking muzzle, and flashing eyes, give the bull Buffalo a very ferocious appearance; but he is by no means as fierce as he looks, and is always more inclined to run away, upon scenting an enemy, than to stand his ground.

In fact, although more powerful than the lion, the Buffalo is nearly as timid as the deer. A herd numbering many hundreds, could be scared into a wild stampede by the sudden appearance of a single man. And yet, though quick to scent danger, and always ready to run at the sight of a human foe, the great beasts would stand stupidly staring, while the hidden hunter, (if he took his position with face to the wind), fired shot after shot into the herd.

Therefore the skin-hunter, armed with his breech-loading rifle, would conceal himself near a herd, and was frequently able to kill every Buffalo it contained, one after the other; he then would take only the skins, leaving the huge carcasses to rot upon the prairie.

To the well-mounted frontiersman of former days, hunting these clumsy, but fleet-footed beasts was most exciting sport; and although the hunter's deadly skill with rifle or pistol, and the nimble movements of the western ponies in avoiding a charge, robbed the hunt of most of its danger, yet there were occasionally some very narrow escapes from wounded, and enraged bulls.

A western ranch owner, who for more than thirty years has made his home on the prairies, tells the following story:—

CHARGED BY A BULL BUFFALO.

I was once traveling on horseback along the edge of the Arkansas river, when looking above the steep bank, I saw in the distance, an immense herd of Buffalo. Owing to my being within the deep hollow worn by the stream, they had not seen me, and were quietly feeding, unsuspecting of danger. I perceived at once that I could easily get near enough for a shot by following the river, and therefore moved carefully along, avoiding the loose stones and dry reeds, so that no sound might alarm the grazing herd. I had nearly reached the place where a sure shot might be made, when an unexpected lowering of the bank exposed me to the full view of the Buffaloes, which at once started off at a mad gallop.

Spurring my pony up the grade I dashed after them, and gaining rapidly, fired twice, rolling over a straggling cow; but seeing a magnificent bull just beyond, with enormous head and shoulders, and long black mane, I kept on. Soon I was close alongside the lumbering giant and blazed away. A fierce lunge from the shaggy head instantly followed; my bullet had not struck fairly. The well-trained pony jumped aside, and would have escaped, but landed in a prairie dog's hole and lost his footing.



BISON, OR AMERICAN BUFFALO.

Height at the shoulder, 6 feet; weight, when full grown and in good condition, about 2000 pounds; color, dark-brown.
This animal is now to be found only in such parks and enclosures as afford it artificial protection.

Instantly the enraged bull was upon us—his huge head was lowered to the ground; then, with a crash the black horns struck beneath the body of my horse, hurling him to the earth, fatally gored and bleeding.

I was thrown far out of the saddle by the shock, landing on all fours, but was up in a moment, running for dear life, and hoping that the wounded bull would not follow; but, hearing a furious bellow, I looked around and saw the Buffalo charging after me. My bad luck did not desert me, for at that moment I stumbled and fell. A narrow gully about a foot deep, worn by the water during the rainy season, happened to be close by, and into this I had barely time to roll when the bull was upon me.

His shaggy head actually brushed my body, as I shrank within my shallow refuge. He tried to gore me, but his horns were too short to easily reach within the hollow. I felt a momentary gleam of hope, but there came another fierce lunge, the bull's horn caught in a fold of my buckskin shirt, and I was thrown out of the trench, landing several feet away.

Strange to say, I was not much hurt, and started to run again. Seeing the Buffalo preparing for another charge, I drew my revolver and circled around him, trying to get a side shot. Before he could turn I planted two bullets in his lungs. These, with the former wound, seemed to stagger him. He turned to face me, his eyes gleaming fiercely, and froth stained with blood, dripping from his mouth; but he was plainly too weak to make another charge.

Moving quickly to the right I fired again, and to my great relief the shaggy head slowly sank, the bull fell on his knees, and after a desperate, but vain attempt to rise, rolled over in his death struggle. I walked up and fired three more bullets into his great carcass, to make sure work of him—and then, my own legs gave way, and I sank exhausted on the ground.

Since that time, said the narrator of this adventure, in concluding his story I have killed hundreds of Buffaloes, but never again did I have such a narrow escape.

THE AFRICAN BUFFALO.

The true Buffaloes are found in Africa and India. All this species are more or less savage, but the African Buffalo is a most ferocious and dangerous brute, especially when wounded. There is greater risk in attacking it than perhaps any of the wild animals of Africa, and unless the hunter is a very sure shot, and is armed with a heavy rifle, he had better give this powerful beast a wide berth.

The hide of the African Buffalo is extremely tough, and of great thickness. It is almost free from hair, and looks more like India-rubber than the skin of a living animal. The skull also, is very thick, and although the forehead can be penetrated by a heavy bullet, it is a mark very difficult to hit, as the animal, when facing an enemy, carries its nose thrown upward.

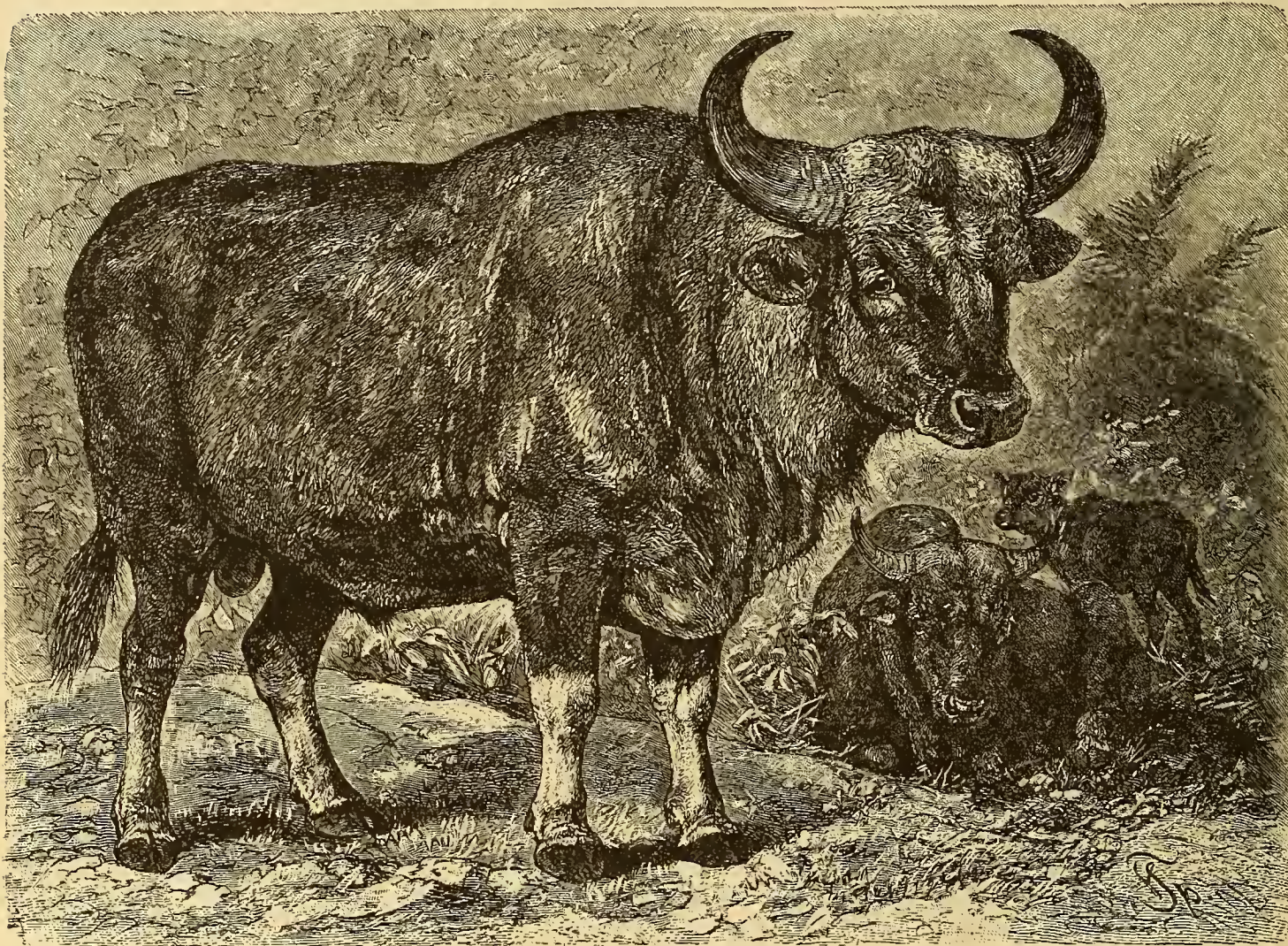


AFRICAN, OR CAPE BUFFALO; Central and Southern Africa.

Height $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder; color black. The horns are large and heavy; much curved, and meeting at the base, forming a broad, bony plate across the top of the head. The hair is scanty and the hide unusually thick.

Says an experienced hunter and explorer in the wilds of Southern Africa:—The charge of an African Buffalo is terribly dangerous to the hunter who has been courageous enough to attack the vicious beast in its native wilds. Most animals when advancing, can be stopped by the stunning effect of a rifle shot, even though they may not be killed; but nothing short of instant death will stop a buffalo when it has once decided to charge. If not killed, it will certainly destroy its adversary.

There is no creature in existence that is so determined to crush out the life of its foe. No more terrible picture of brute rage can be presented, than that of a bull Buffalo rushing forward upon its last desperate charge. Should it succeed in overthrowing the object of its fury, it will not only gore the body with its horns, but will endeavor to tear it to



GAUR; India.

The largest of the wild cattle of the world. A full-grown bull measures 6 feet in height at the shoulder; color deep brown, lower part of the legs white; the horns are about 2 feet long. The Gaur is usually found in herds numbering ten to thirty. During the heat of noon they retire to the deep forest, coming forth to feed at sunset. It is not known to be domesticated.

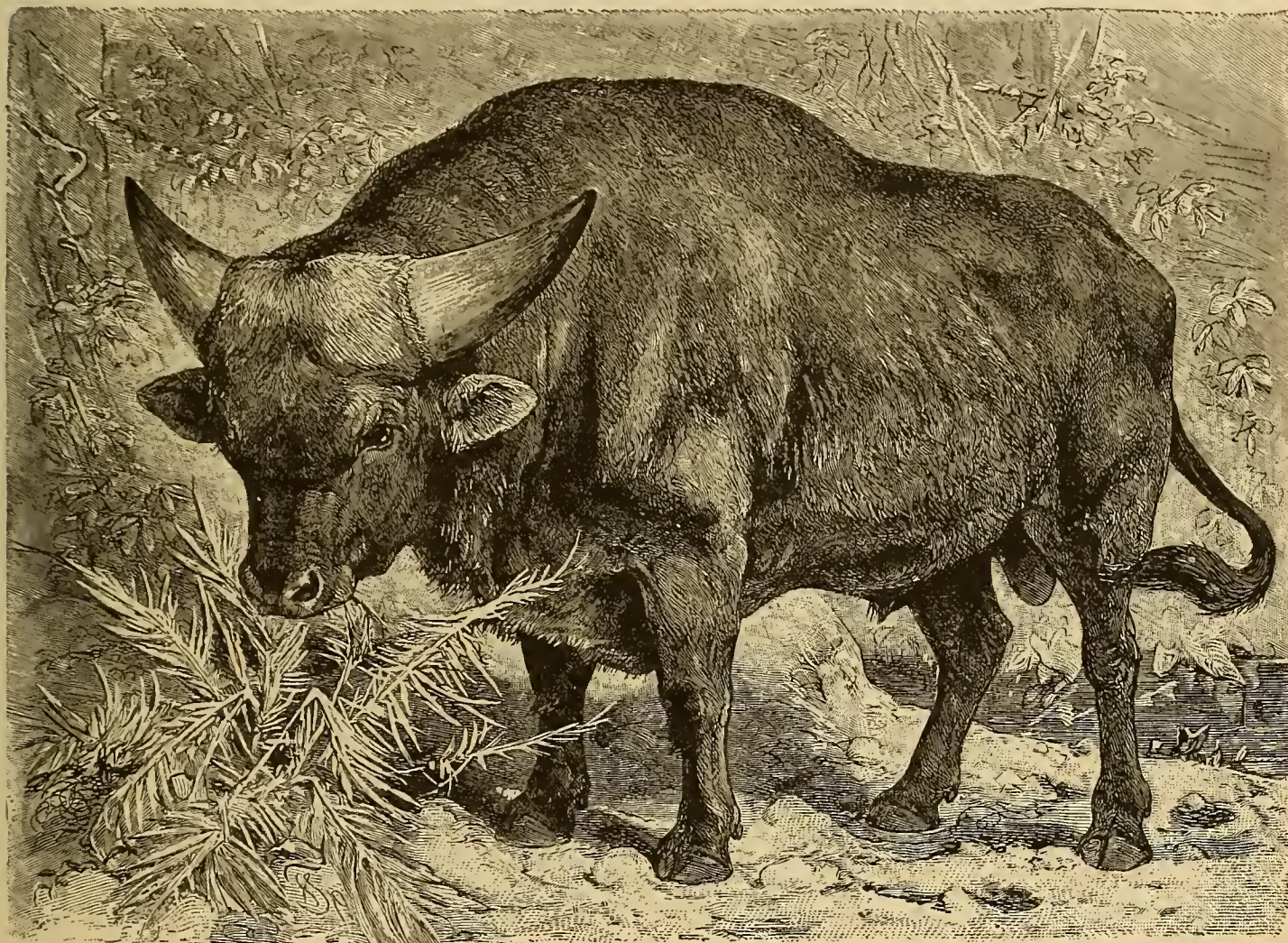
pieces; kneeling upon the lifeless form, and stamping it with its hoofs, until the remains are a battered and shapeless mass.

FIGHTS BETWEEN BULLS.

Fights of the most desperate kind are common between the bull Buffaloes; lowering their massive heads they rush at each other—the great horns coming together with a crash that can be heard for a long distance. After a short struggle for the mastery, during which each tries to drive the other

backward, the weaker of the two is forced to turn, and runs from the field followed by the victor, who hastens the flight of his rival by dashing his horns against his hind quarters, and goring him at every stride.

Besides being a most savage brute, the Buffalo is very hard to kill. The following experience of a well-known African explorer, shows this peculiarity.



THE GAYAL; India.

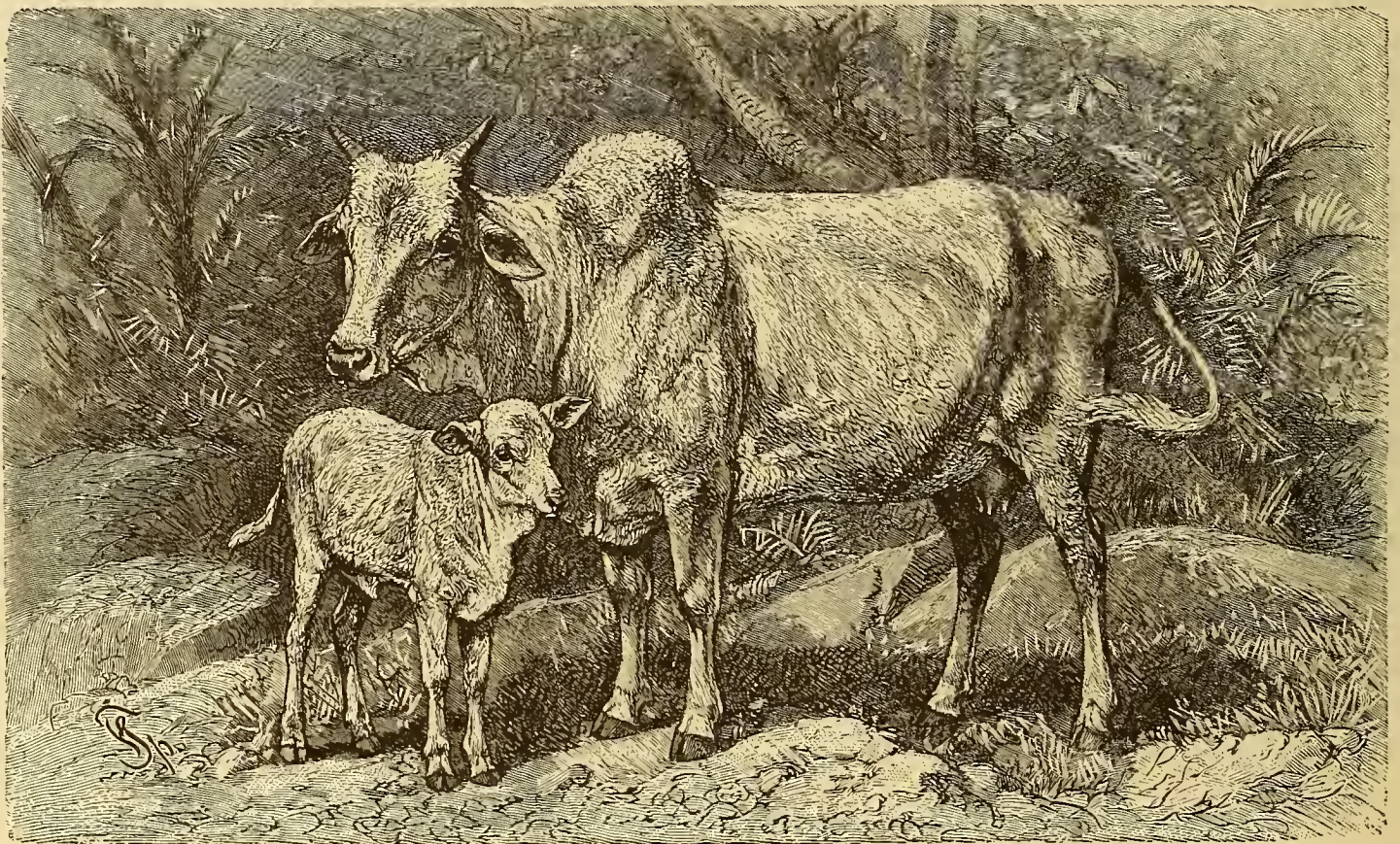
Height at the shoulder $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 feet; color dark brown. This species of wild ox is common in the hill regions of India, where it is often domesticated. It is considered by the inhabitants of that country as their most valuable property.

The milk of the cow is remarkably rich and the flesh excellent for food. The horns are very thick at the base, almost straight, and about 18 inches in length.

A DEAD BUFFALO COMES TO LIFE.

I shot a big Buffalo one evening, upon the marshy bank of the White Nile; it was knocked over, apparently dead, by the first bullet. My men actually danced in triumph upon its body, expecting a feast of fresh beef after our long voyage upon the desolate river when suddenly, the Buffalo jumped up, and sent them flying into the river like so many frogs, swimming for their lives toward the boat. The Buffalo then ran into the swamp and disappeared among the high grass.

Next morning, supposing the beast must have died during the night, the men went ashore to look for the carcass. In a few minutes I heard a shot, then another, followed by a regular volley. Soon afterward, the men came back with the head of the Buffalo and a large quantity of meat, but they also carried the body of my best man, who, when leading the way through the high reeds, upon the track of blood, had actually stumbled over the Buffalo as it lay hidden in the swamp. His light gun failed to stop its charge. The crooked horn hooked him beneath



ZEBU; India.

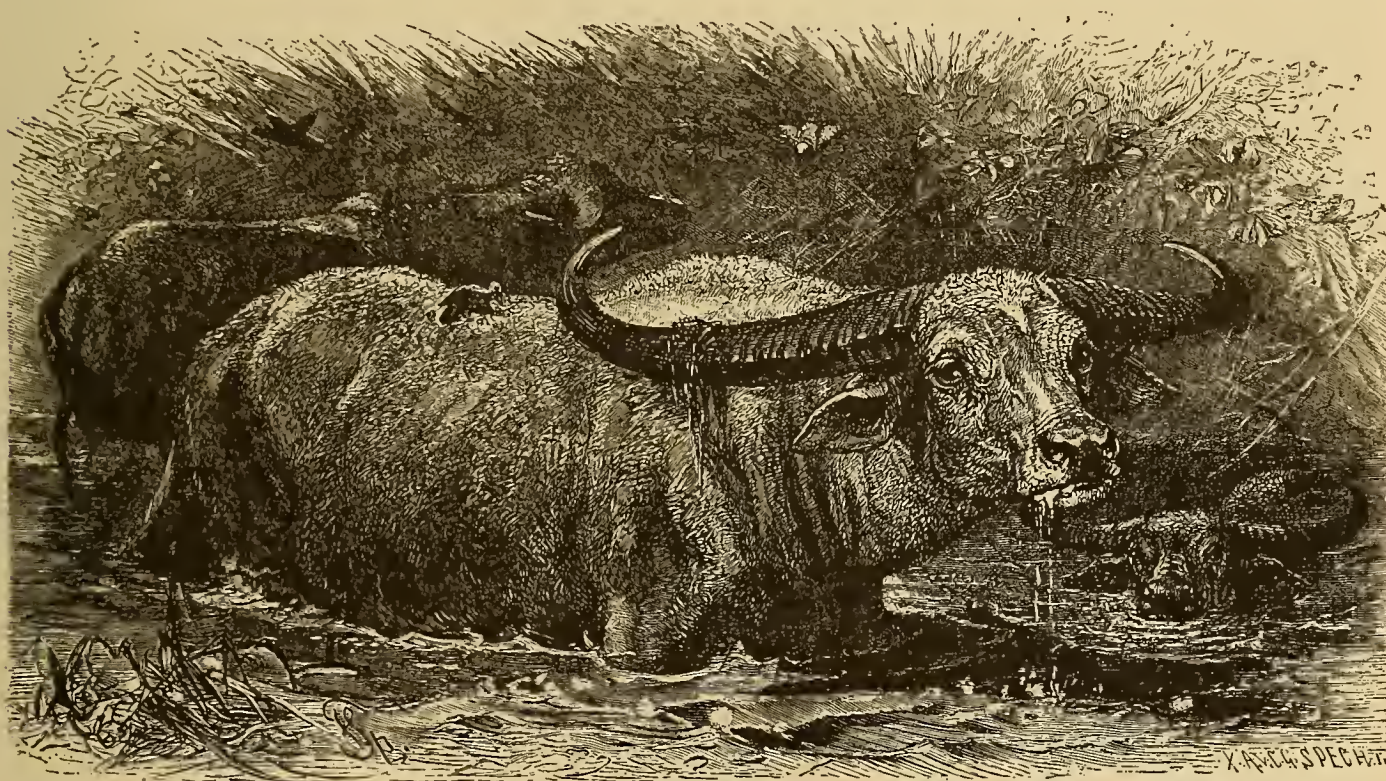
These are the domestic cattle of India and many herds of them can be seen throughout that country. The flesh of the Zebu is, however, but little used for food, as the natives have a great objection to killing the animal, and value their herds chiefly for the milk furnished by the cows. To this species belong the so-called Sacred Bulls of the Hindus, which are selected on account of peculiar marking, and treated with highest honors. In height it measures at the hump about 5 feet; the color varies from yellowish, or white, to dark brown.

the ear, and passed right through the neck, tearing out his throat, as though it had been cut. The savage beast had then knelt upon the lifeless body and crushed it into the muddy ground, until the united fire from the guns of the rest of the party, rolled it over dead.

THE INDIAN BUFFALO.

In India the Buffalo has been very much reduced in numbers by the hunter, but a few yet remain in wild and jungle-covered regions. The Indian Buffalo is about the same size and shape as the African variety, but its horns are much longer, and their spread is tremendous. When measured in the curve, from tip to tip, they have been frequently found to exceed twelve feet.

Like all the Buffaloes, they love swampy places, where they can wallow in the mud and lie in shallow pools, with only their heads and great horns



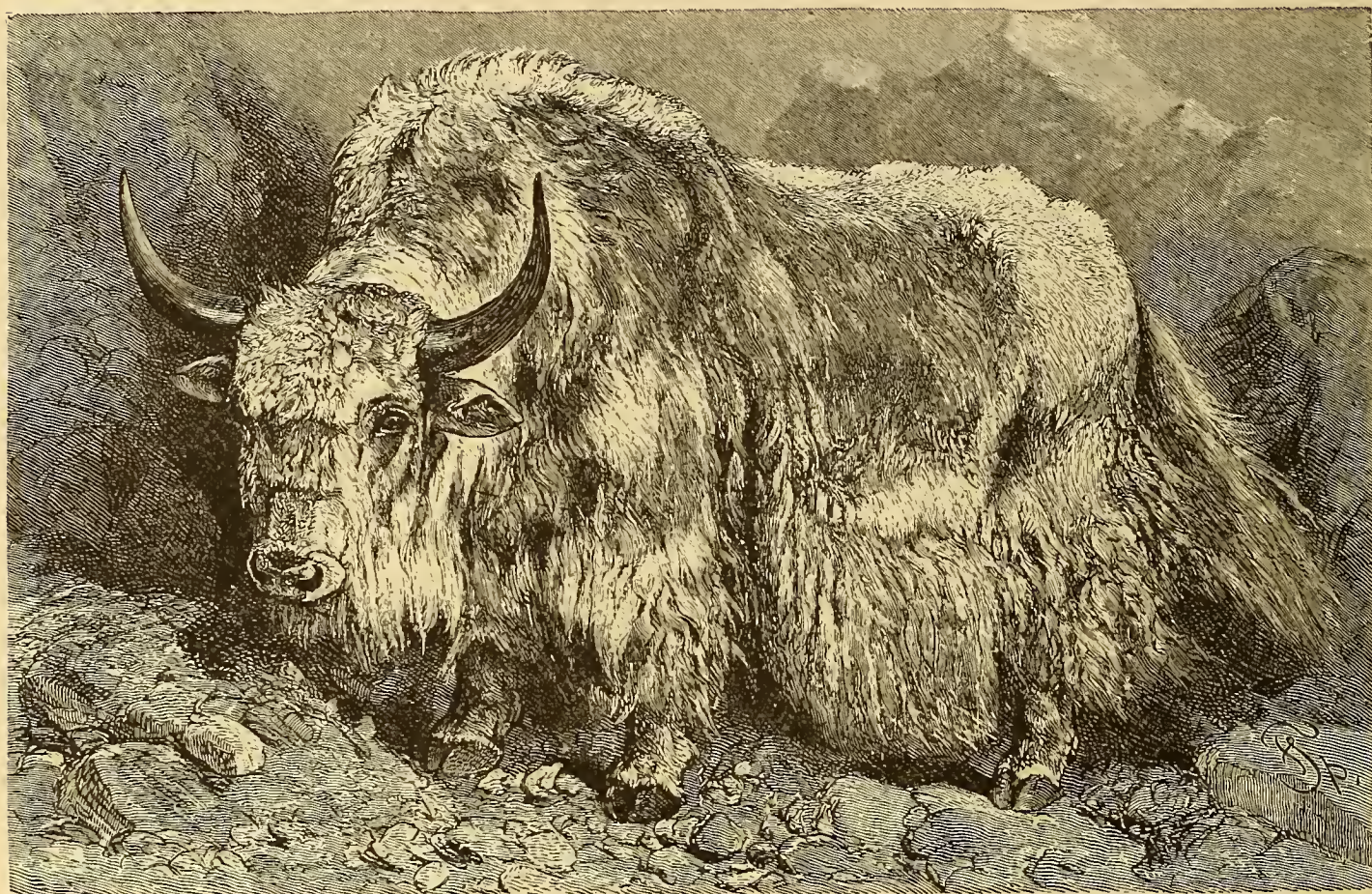
INDIAN BUFFALO.

The horns of the Indian Buffalo are larger than those of any other variety. It is a water-loving animal, and will remain for hours in muddy pools with only its head visible above the surface. Height at the shoulder about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color brown.

showing above the surface of the water. They remain almost motionless in their cool retreat, and are scarcely to be distinguished from the tufts of grass and reeds which grow in such marshy places.

Nothing is more startling to an inexperienced traveller than to pass by a silent and tranquil pool, the muddy surface of which is unbroken, except by a number of black lumps and rushy tufts, and then to see these tufts suddenly change into twenty or thirty huge beasts, which rise out of the still water as if by magic.

The YAK, or Grunting Ox as it is sometimes called, from the peculiar sound it makes resembling the grunt of a pig, is found in the mountains of Thibet. To enable it to withstand the severe cold of the elevated regions in which it lives, the Yak is covered with a very heavy coat of soft, woolly hair. This warm covering is usually black and white in color, but it is sometimes pure white, which, together with the large size and spreading horns of the animal, gives it a very imposing appearance. It is



YAK: Thibet.

This species of wild ox lives upon the mountain ranges and high table lands of Western Thibet. In size it nearly equals the domestic ox; the color of its long, silky hair varies from black to white.

tamed, and used as a beast of burden by the people of the countries in which it is found.

The MUSK-OX lives far up in the Northern regions, and crops the sparse herbage of the bleak and desolate plains which border on the Arctic Ocean.

During the long winters of this part of the world, he must dig away the snow which covers the tufts of grass and moss, before he can find even that scanty fare; and when night comes on, his only bed is among the whirling drifts.

To fit him for life in such a desolate place, he carries upon his head a broad, serviceable pair of horns, curving down upon each side—which serve excellently as snow-shovels, and upon his sturdy body grows a heavy coat of thick, long hair completely covering him from head to tail; under this outer covering there is yet another coat of fine, soft wool.

In Greenland there are a great many Musk-Oxen, and although their flesh has rather a musky taste, it is juicy and tender, and the Greenlanders often make long journeys to the lonely, inland hills to hunt them. Not



MUSK-OX; Arctic Regions.

Height at the shoulder about 4 feet; weight, when full-grown and in good condition, 600 lbs.; color dark brown.
It is given its name on account of the musky flavor of its flesh.

only is the flesh of the Musk-Ox used for food, but their skin makes the warmest kind of a bed.

HUNTING THE MUSK-OX.

When a party of native hunters happen to find the fresh track of Musk-Oxen, there is a great stir in the camp; they run to and fro, and examine the marks, while the oldest hunter gives his opinion as to the direction

taken by the game. This being settled, the dogs are caught and harnessed to the sledges, the hunters crack their long-lashed whips, and away they go as fast as the dogs can gallop.

When the tracks show that the game is near, the hunters stop, and unfasten the sledges, but do not let the dogs run entirely free. They are strong pullers and the hunter needs their help in going the rest of the way; so he fastens the long, leathern sledge trace around his waist, and with gun in hand sets out to follow the trail to the end.

The dogs start off with a rush, so anxious are they to reach the game. Usually, they are not fed on the day before a hunt, because the hungrier they are, the more eagerly will they follow the trail, and the more bravely will they fight when the game has at last been brought to bay.

Away rushes the fierce pack, dragging the hunter so rapidly over the frozen drifts that he can scarcely stay upon his feet. He puts forth his best efforts to keep up, and runs with all his might, for well he knows that if he should fall, his wild steeds will not wait for him to rise again, but will drag him along, over the snow and rough pieces of ice, until he is bruised and sore.

After running for a mile or more the herd of Musk-Oxen is discovered ahead. They see the hunters at the same time, and at once turn and begin to gallop away. Now is the time to loosen the dogs; with a skillful twist the hunter unfastens a slip-knot, letting them rush forward with redoubled speed, and the herd is soon overtaken and brought to bay.

It is the nature of these oxen of the North, to form a circle when attacked, so that they can repel with their sharp horns an enemy upon every side. While this is, no doubt, a very effective way of defending themselves when only dogs or wolves are to be beaten off, it does not avail them against human foes. On the contrary, the habit makes it easy for the hunters to shoot down almost the entire herd.

Even should they be without guns, the hardy and courageous Eskimo does not hesitate to approach the threatening array of horns. Watching his opportunity, he rushes, knife in hand, between the hairy bodies of the excited beasts, and once inside the circle, deals fatal stabs right and left, with his sharp weapon, until many of the oxen are down.

The battle over, the tired hunters pack the hides, horns, and flesh of the slaughtered oxen upon their sledges, and slowly return to their snow village, where both men and dogs feast royally upon the proceeds of their successful hunt.



PAMPAS DEER; South America.

This is a small species, under 3 feet in height at the shoulder; color reddish-brown. It is found in the open country, upon the pampas (or prairies), from which it takes its name.

THE DEER.

The animals of the DEER tribe are widely scattered over the whole world. Most of them are distinguished for their light and graceful bodies, slender, sinewy legs—which, however, can carry them over miles of rough country at a wonderful rate of speed—and for their small, beautiful heads, adorned with sharp-pointed, branching antlers. The female Deer are not usually supplied with these ornamental weapons, but in some varieties, as in the Reindeer, the does, as well as the bucks, have horns.

A distinguishing feature of the Deer family is, that they shed their antlers every year. The old pair usually drop off at the beginning of Spring, and soon afterward the new ones commence to grow.

There are few things in nature more curious than the growth of a deer's horns. When the buck is two years old, he gets his first pair, which consist merely of spikes, about six inches long. These fall off in the Spring, leaving the peculiar, porous base ready for the growth of a larger pair.

If the animal is healthy, and the conditions of the locality favorable, each annual shedding is succeeded by a pair of horns of increased size. The base, or foundation grows broader and more solid every year, and the "spike" horn forms a "tine." As age increases, the horns become antlers, and the tines not only enlarge and lengthen, but become more numerous until the deer reaches the prime of its existence. Each season's growth is quite rapid, for if the young horns should sprout in the month of April, they are usually sufficiently hard beneath their downy skin to commence to peel in August.

When the new antlers first make their appearance in the Spring, they consist of a pair of knobs, which can only just be seen projecting from the head of the buck. These are covered with dark skin, and usually a scar in the centre of each, marks the place from which fell the horns of the previous year.

As the weather becomes warmer, the knobs grow longer and are filled with blood, which is supplied by special vessels, developed only at this season. Soon other sprouts shoot out from the main stems and gradually take the form of tines, until at last the perfect shape of the antlers appears.

Although the form is now complete, the structure has not yet hardened into bone. It is overlaid by the same soft skin as the knobs were when they first showed themselves. This skin is covered with short silky hair, which, from its texture and appearance, has received the name of "velvet"—the stag's horns are said to be in the velvet when they are still soft.

During this period the buck is very careful of his new head-gear, and timidly retires to the quiet solitudes of the deep forest, apparently knowing full well that he cannot yet depend upon his natural weapons for defense. The growing horns are also very sensitive, and the deer does not like to push his way through tangled thickets. Moreover, should any injury befall them at this time their shape would be spoiled.

When at last the growth of the antlers ceases, the bone gets thoroughly hard, the small veins dry up, and the downy skin, or velvet also becomes dry and leathery. Soon the hard bone can be seen here and there, in places where the velvet has peeled away.

The deer now begins to rub his antlers against young trees, and threshes them about among the bushes and undergrowth, so as to free them from the ragged shreds of dried skin. The last remaining bits of this irritating substance, he boldly rubs off against the rough bark of some old birch, or upon any rugged trunk that will most speedily cleanse them.



RED DEER (Europe).

Height at the shoulder, over 4 feet; color, reddish-fawn. These are the Deer which are so carefully preserved in the forests and parks of England. Deer-stalking, or hunting these fine animals, is the highest form of British sport, and can only be indulged in by those who control large landed estates.

Soon there is none of it left to mar their beauty, and the lofty, spreading framework, of hard and polished bone, rises grandly above his proud head.

Filled with the glory of his new crowning, the stag advances boldly from the solitudes in which he has passed the summer, and as he goes, tries the strength of his new weapons by butting at imaginary enemies.



AXIS, OR SPOTTED DEER; India and Ceylon.

One of the most beautiful and graceful of the Deer tribe. It is found in herds numbering 100 or more; these usually live in thick jungles upon the banks of rivers. It is of medium size, measuring under 4 feet in height at the shoulder; color a rich dark brown, completely covered with snow-white spots; the lower parts of the neck and body are also white.

He will now look about for mates among the does of neighboring herds, but he is sure to meet rivals at this time, and desperate battles often take place between evenly matched pairs. During these contests the sound of their clashing antlers may be heard for a long distance, while now and then, by accident, it happens that the many-pointed weapons lock together



ROE DEER (Europe).

This little Deer is about the size of an ordinary goat. Color, reddish-fawn; antlers small, with two points, much roughened at the base. The Roe Deer is preserved in private parks and forests rather for its beauty than for purposes of sport. It is said, however, to be very destructive to growing trees, as it browses upon the tender bark and young shoots.

so firmly that the rival bucks are unable to part them, strive as they may, and thus perish miserably.

In these engagements the bucks always fight with the utmost fierceness, and exert every effort for victory, for the does, though soft-eyed and gentle, only admire and follow the successful warrior. The loser of a fight is therefore compelled to seek further afield, and tries to join some other herd that is watched over by a less powerful leader.

The principal kinds of Deer found in North America are the common or Virginia Deer; the Caribou; the Moose; and the Wapiti—or Elk, as it is usually called.

THE COMMON, OR VIRGINIA DEER.

The first named of these, the Virginia Deer, is found throughout almost the whole of the United States. It is one of the shyest, and most difficult to approach of all the wild animals that live in the forests of our country. Long before the hunter can come within gun-shot, it detects his presence, for the faintest scent upon the breeze is sufficient to warn it of danger, and will send it flying away with swift leaps and bounds to a place of safety.

Although thousands of these Deer are killed every year, and venison is by no means an unfamiliar dainty upon many tables, yet thousands more of the wary creatures escape the hunter, and continue to live on in places where less watchful or cautious animals would surely all be killed.

If it were not for the so-called market-hunters, who mercilessly slaughter the Deer at all seasons, when they think they are safe from the observation of game wardens, and who put dogs upon the track of the poor animals, which pursue them with wolf-like ferocity until caught or driven into the water—there to be butchered with axe or club by men in boats, the forests of our country would be peopled by this graceful, antlered tribe.

The Virginia Deer was the first game hunted on this continent by white settlers; it has always been an object of pursuit, and but for the friendly shelter of its forest home, would doubtless, like the Buffalo, have long ago become extinct.

Although the useful REINDEER is an Old World species, and is not found in this country, it has a near relation in the CARIBOU, which lives in

the cold and barren regions of Northern Canada, and Labrador, and also, to some extent, in the Northern States. The Caribou is larger than the common Deer and not so gracefully formed; the legs are shorter, the body stouter, and in every way the animal is more heavily built, but it is



REINDEER.

This useful animal is found in Northern Sweden and Norway; Finland and Siberia. Harnessed to sledges, it draws the hardy Laplander over the snow at great speed; its milk and flesh furnish him with food and its skin with clothing. A Laplander's wealth is estimated by the size of his herd of Reindeer. In height this animal stands about 4 feet at the shoulder; its color is generally brown, sometimes nearly white. The horns are very long and branching, and the hoofs wide-spreading, to support it on the snow.

a fleet and active creature; able to clear the ground with tremendous bounds when alarmed, and in its ordinary movements from place to place, keeping up for long distances, and over rough country, a swift and tireless trot that would leave a fast horse far behind.

The hoofs of the Caribou spread widely apart, so as to give it a firm

foot-hold upon the snow. The height of a full-grown, woodland Caribou is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder, and its weight about 400 pounds. The horns, which are very large and branching, are carried by the does as well as the bucks.

The Caribou, like its well-known relative, the Reindeer of Northern Europe, would be able, if harnessed to a sled or wagon, to pull a heavy load, but instead of having the Reindeer's gentle nature, it is one of the wildest and most untamable of the Deer tribe. Therefore, no attempt has been made to train it, much as the people of the far Northwestern parts of America need the services of such a strong and quick moving beast. It has even been proposed to import to these regions, from Northern Europe, trained Reindeer, which could be used to draw sleds swiftly along, and would require for food only such scanty mosses and shrubs as grow upon the bleak, snow-covered plains.

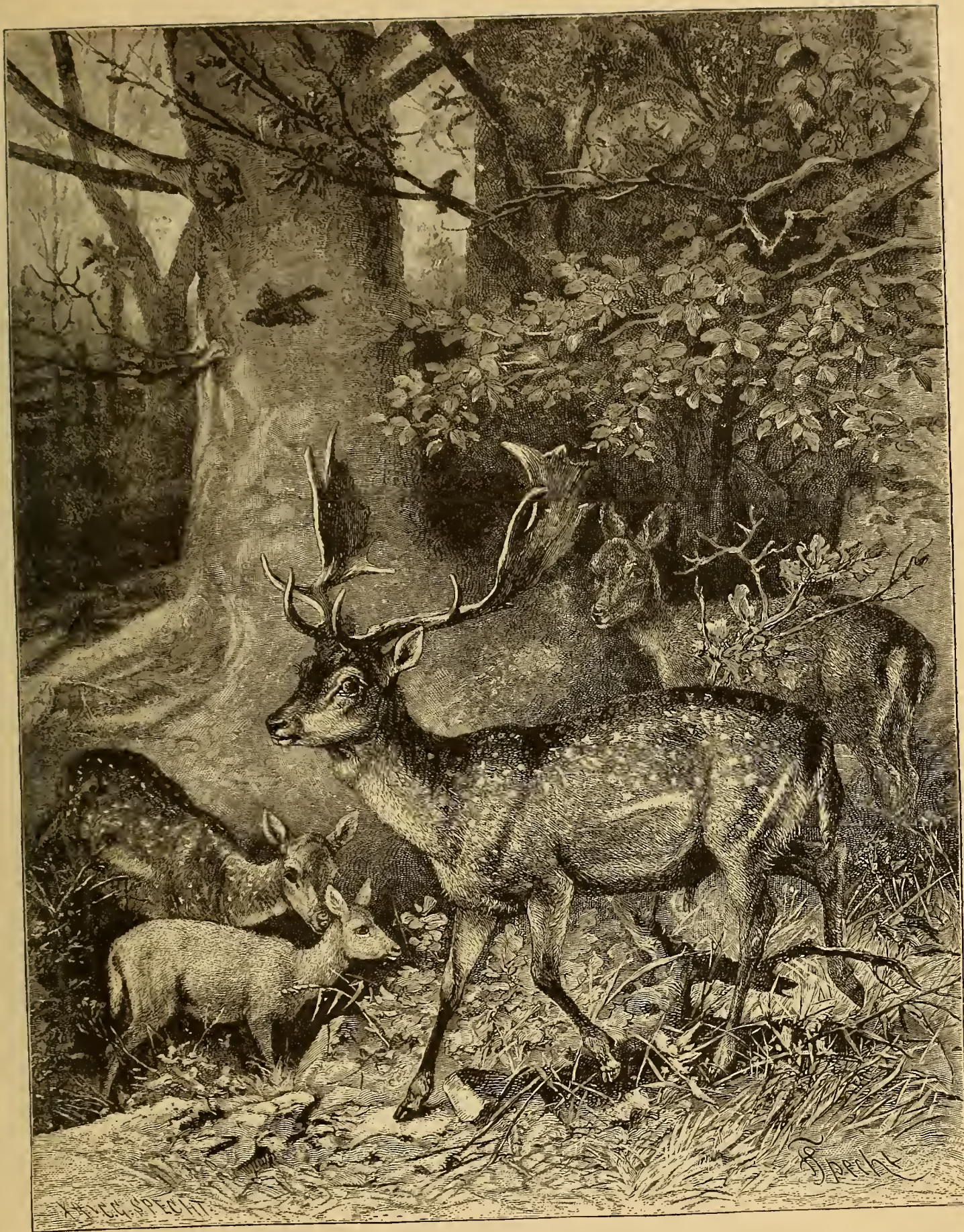
THE ELK, OR WAPITI.

The WAPITI, or as it is usually called, the ELK, though not equalling its giant relative, the Moose, in bulk or in stature, is of far more graceful shape. It may be said indeed, of this splendid creature, that in nobility of form, and spread of branching antlers, it is superior to all other deer, and that it proudly stands a king among its tribe.

The largest herds of Elk now in existence, are in the Yellowstone National Park, where they are protected from marauding hunters. There are also many to be found in the Olympic Mountains of Washington and in British Columbia. Old bucks of this species attain a height of over five feet at the shoulder, and a weight of eight hundred pounds.

Before the merciless skin hunter, and foreign sportsman, had reached the wild regions of Northwestern America, which is the last stronghold of the larger game, the Elk could be seen there in great numbers. Sometimes herds of over one hundred were found together, and a grand sight it was to see so many of these magnificent animals, making their way through the forest, under the leadership of some old buck, which could compel all the rest of the herd to obey him.

The Elk is perhaps the fiercest of the deer tribe; savage fights between the bucks often take place, and the weaker are frequently killed by stabs from the sharp horns of their stronger rivals. Many a hunter has been charged upon and badly hurt by a wounded Elk, for they will not hesitate



FALLOW DEER.

A graceful and beautiful species, native to Southern Europe, but domesticated in Deer parks of different parts of the world. Height at the shoulder about 4 feet; color bright fawn, with white spots; antlers large, and palmated or flattened at the ends.

to turn upon an enemy if brought to bay. When hard pressed they will plunge into a swift flowing stream; a pack of hungry wolves has been known to force an Elk to seek refuge in the icy waters of a frozen river, where it has breasted the current, and escaped in gallant style.

The Elk lives upon grass, herbs, young shoots of certain trees, and moss. The latter it obtains in winter by digging away the snow with its fore feet. Its flesh is remarkably tender and juicy; and the hide is much valued by the Indians, who make from it the softest of hunting shirts, which do not harden after being wet, as is the case with the leather that is made from the skins of other deer.

THE MOOSE.

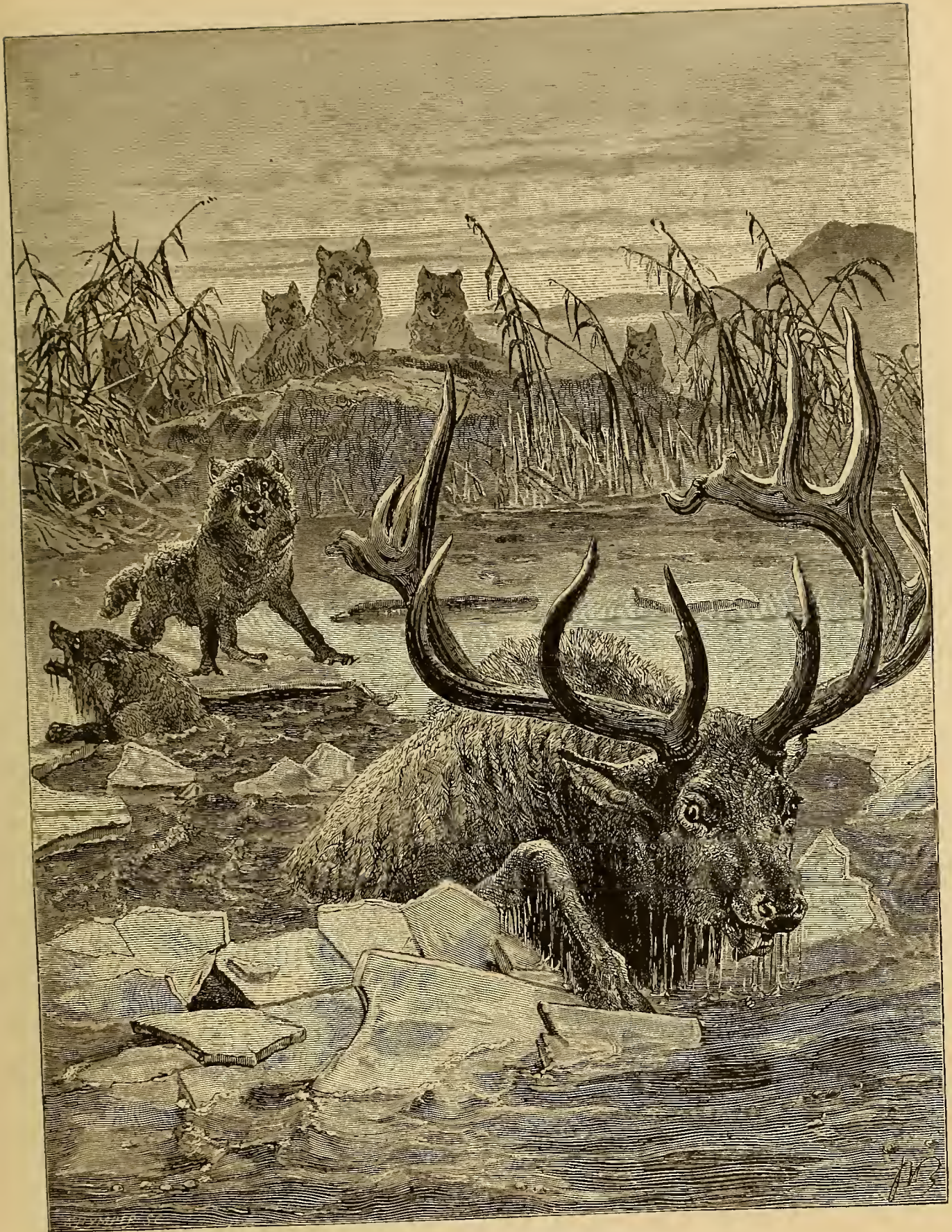
The MOOSE is the largest of all the deer tribe, but is awkward and ungainly in form. Its short, heavy neck and body, though mounted upon long sinewy legs, give it an ox-like look, far different from the graceful and beautiful outlines of most of the deer family. It grows to a great size, six feet at the shoulder being not an unusual height for an old bull.

The horns of the bull Moose are palmated; they do not consist only of round and branching beams and points, as do those of most of the deer tribe: they expand into wide, flat or concave sheets of bone, from the edges of which short prongs extend.

Moose live upon the leaves and tender twigs of trees and bushes; they also browse upon various kinds of moss and bark, and do not graze with heads lowered to the grass, as their necks are too short to enable them to feed easily in that manner. When browsing, the Moose will walk into a bush and force it down by pressing against it with its broad breast and shoulders, eating all the twigs off as it passes over. Sometimes it will reach up to the large limb of a tree and bend it down with the horns or nose; over the bent limb the Moose will throw one fore leg, and hold it, as with a hook, until it is carefully trimmed of all the tender shoots.

In the winter they plow through the snow with their broad humped noses, in search of plants and ferns, and the cold, white covering does not prevent these hardy beasts from finding food.

The Moose generally lives in the densest forest, and like all the deer tribe, is of cautious and retiring habits. In the autumn its usual haunts are near some lake, or mossy swamp deep in the woods, where it finds



AN ELK'S PLUNGE FOR LIFE.

plenty to eat. In the winter, the cows, with the young bulls and calves, herd together, and when the snow becomes deep, form what is called a "moose yard"—that is, they select a sheltered part of the forest, generally upon a hill side, where there is plenty of leafy bushes and young trees, and here they tread the snow down continually over a considerable space, so that after a while the surrounding unpacked snow is much higher than the part under their feet. Thus an embankment is formed around the yard, which protects the inmates from the attacks of wolves and bears.

Here they remain the whole winter, unless discovered by the hunter, who, if alone, will only mark the place so that he can find it again, for there is no occasion for hurry. The longer the Moose are allowed to live undisturbed in the yard, the fatter they will become. There is little or no chance of their escaping through the deep snow, unless a sudden thaw should take place. At last, when the fatal day arrives, a party of men carrying firearms of all kinds, surround the yard and shoot into the herd of helpless animals, killing cows and calves alike.

The old bulls seldom remain with the herd during the winter months, preferring to wander about the woods and feed; but when the snow lies deep, they too, are often destroyed in great numbers, both by the settlers and Indians, who are able to run quickly on snow-shoes, while the poor Moose, with his legs cut and bleeding from the sharp surface-crust of ice, through which he sinks at every step, flounders along, and falls helpless at last before the hunter, who very often does not take the trouble to fire his gun, but strikes the animal on the head with an axe. It is not surprising that the Moose are becoming scarce, and that every year fewer of them are to be found. But in the forests of Maine and Canada they are still occasionally seen.

CALLING THE MOOSE.

During the autumn the bull Moose utters a loud call to his mate, and by imitating the answering call of the cow, a hunter can easily draw him within range of his rifle. There are among the Indians, professional callers who are very skillful in luring both Moose and other kinds of deer from their retreats. A hunter who has spent the winter in the solitary wastes of the far Northwest, describes this mode of hunting as follows:—

Setting out so as to reach the haunts of the Moose before nightfall, we made our camp and supped comfortably; after which, putting on our leathern hunting shirts so as to protect ourselves from the frosty night air,



MOOSE (Northern United States, Canada, and Northern Europe).

Height at the shoulder averaging six feet; but, occasionally, giant bulls of still greater size are seen by hunters in the northern forests. Color of hair, when in the best condition, almost black, changing to brownish upon the back and under parts.

we plunged into the depths of the forest, just as the moon arose and shed her broad, silvery light upon the rocks and trees. Making our way along alder swamps, or through clumps of scrub pine, now scrambling over logs and fallen trunks, or sinking knee-deep in soft moss that grew around old hemlocks, which spread their gnarled branches on every side, we reached the entrance of a valley between the hills.

This was considered, by my Indian guide, as a good place for Moose, so looking carefully to the loading of my rifle, I selected a hiding place, while the Indian climbed high up into a tree so as to give the sound of his calling a wide range. He used in making this call, a piece of birch bark, about two feet long, rolled up into the shape of a trumpet.

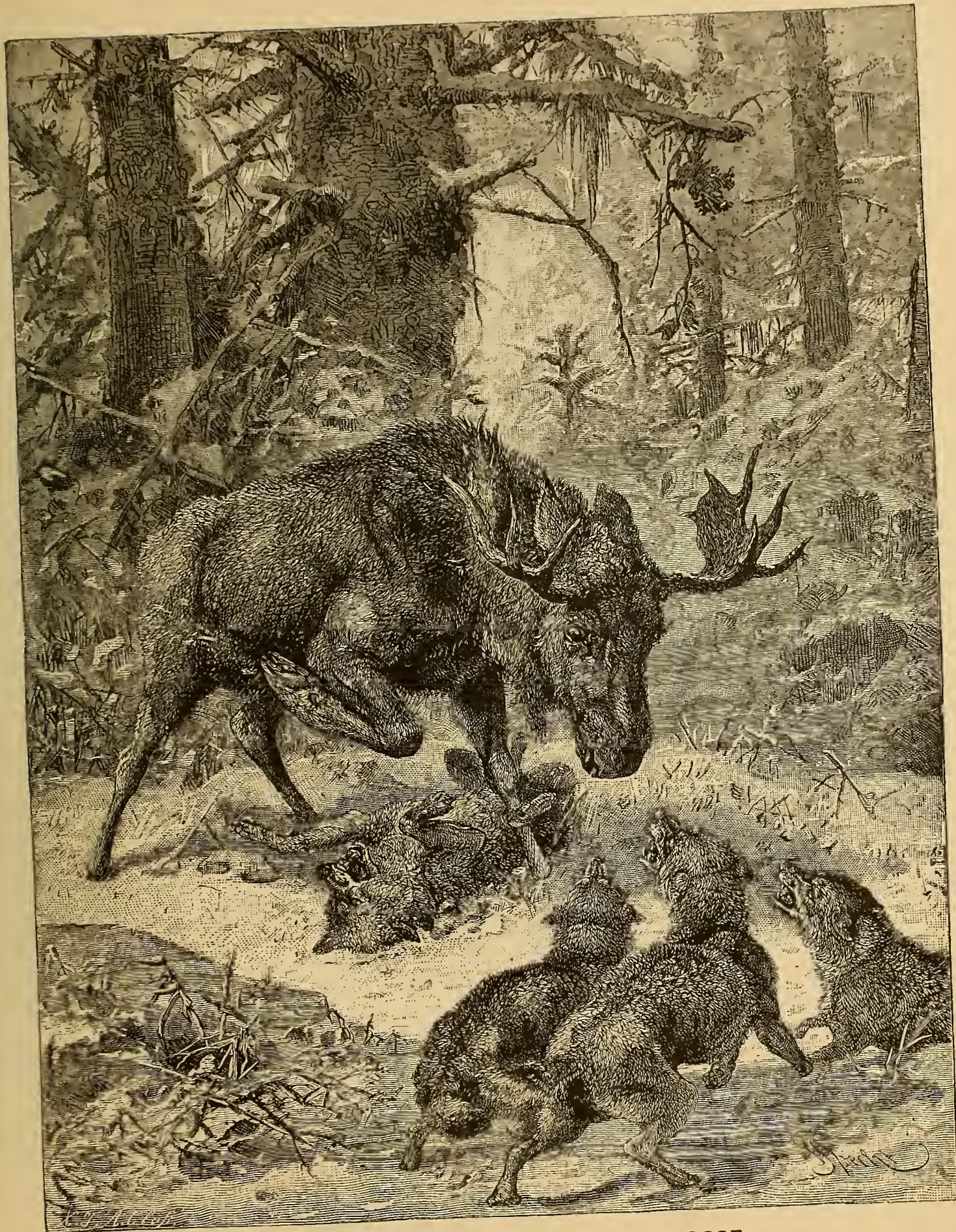
Through this rude instrument he sounded a long, deep note which echoed far and wide through the still night air. This cry he repeated at intervals; but for nearly an hour there was no reply. I had about made up my mind that, either there were no Moose within hearing, or that they were too much engaged to listen to the strange music, when suddenly I heard the crashing of branches, and the rattling of antlers against the trunks of trees—I knew at once that game was afoot.

Almost immediately after hearing the noise, a deep, hoarse bellow, more like a lion's roar than the call of a deer, rose from a patch of alder bushes, and to my surprise this was answered by two other animals far off, in a different direction on the hill-side. My Indian caller immediately changed his note, and putting his hand into the mouth of his trumpet, uttered a low and plaintive cry.

A snapping of brushwood, accompanied by a succession of deep grunts, warned us of the near approach of our gigantic game. A moment more, and an immense bull Moose, with bristling mane erect, and huge palmated horns lowered in readiness for combat, stood before me, sniffing the air with his wide nostrils, and tearing up the ground with his hoofs. As the pale light of the moon shone upon him, he appeared to be of gigantic size.

I felt the blood coursing quickly through my veins, and my heart thumped hard against my ribs, as I noiselessly raised my rifle, and aiming at his fully exposed and brawny chest, fired a right and left shot. The sound of the reports had scarcely died away, when I heard a heavy fall, followed by a slight struggle—then all was still.

I was about to rush from cover and examine the spoils, when the bellowing of a second Moose sounded close at hand. Hastily reloading, I



WOLVES ATTACKING A WOUNDED MOOSE.

remained in my hiding place, peering eagerly in the direction of the new comer, while the Indian in the tree continued to send out low, moaning noises, in imitation of the sound made by the cow Moose when browsing.

Some minutes passed and there was no response; I began to think that, forewarned of danger, he had stolen away—when suddenly, a great animal rose directly behind me; the first intimation I had of his presence being the snort of defiance that comes before a headlong rush.

I was, however, fully prepared and quickly putting my rifle to my shoulder, let drive a shot at his head, which stopped his advance and brought him down upon his knees. Before he could regain his feet, a second shot through the chest stretched him lifeless at my feet. He had evidently made a long round, so as to get well to leeward of our position. Fortunately, as there was hardly any breeze stirring, he had not scented us until within a short distance, when he charged with scarcely a moment's delay.

Sending the Indian to the nearest settlement, to get people to carry in the venison, I made a big fire, and rolling myself up in my buffalo robe, slept until morning, when I was awakened by a pack of coyotes, or small wolves, which had scented the meat and were kept at a distance only by the fire. Soon after daybreak a party of settlers came up, and the venison was divided; I kept one of the heads as a trophy, it having splendid antlers, with eighteen points, weighing nearly fifty pounds.

Following the Moose on snow-shoes, over the deep snow, that covers their feeding grounds in the winter months, is a mode of hunting followed by the northern tribes of Indians, and also by the white settlers.

The long hair of the Moose forms the warmest kind of a covering and protects it from the cold, so the animal is able to lie down and sleep comfortably upon the surface of the snow.

In following their tracks, the places where they have thus rested can readily be seen, which, together with their paths to and fro, form traces that can easily be followed. Altogether, the great beast has many enemies and is being crowded slowly, but surely, back into the most remote parts of the northern wilds and must, even there, soon become scarce.



PRONG-HORN ANTELOPE; Western North America.

Height 3 feet; color yellowish-brown above, white below. These animals are common upon the slopes of the Rocky Mountains; they are among the swiftest of American game, and when alarmed fly across the plain with wonderful speed.

ANTELOPES.

Most of the ANTELOPES look a good deal like deer, and resemble them in many of their ways, but for all this they belong to very different tribes and in some things are not at all alike.

For instance, the Antelope does not shed its horns like the deer, once every year, but like the goats, and oxen or cows, the same pair lasts all through life. These horns continue to grow as long as the Antelope lives, and often show the age of the animal carrying them, by rings, or knobs on the bone.

Each variety of Antelope has differently shaped horns; some are nearly straight, others are twisted like corkscrews, or bent like hooks; in fact there seems to be no end to the strange shapes and forms which they take.

In the western part of our country, on the "rolling prairies" or "foothills", where the Rocky Mountains first break the level of the plain, the prong-horned Antelope may often be seen. Although not very large—a full-grown buck standing but three feet high, it is of a most elegant and graceful shape, and is able to bound across the prairies with wonderful speed. They can also swim very well and occasionally, a herd when



NILGAU; India.

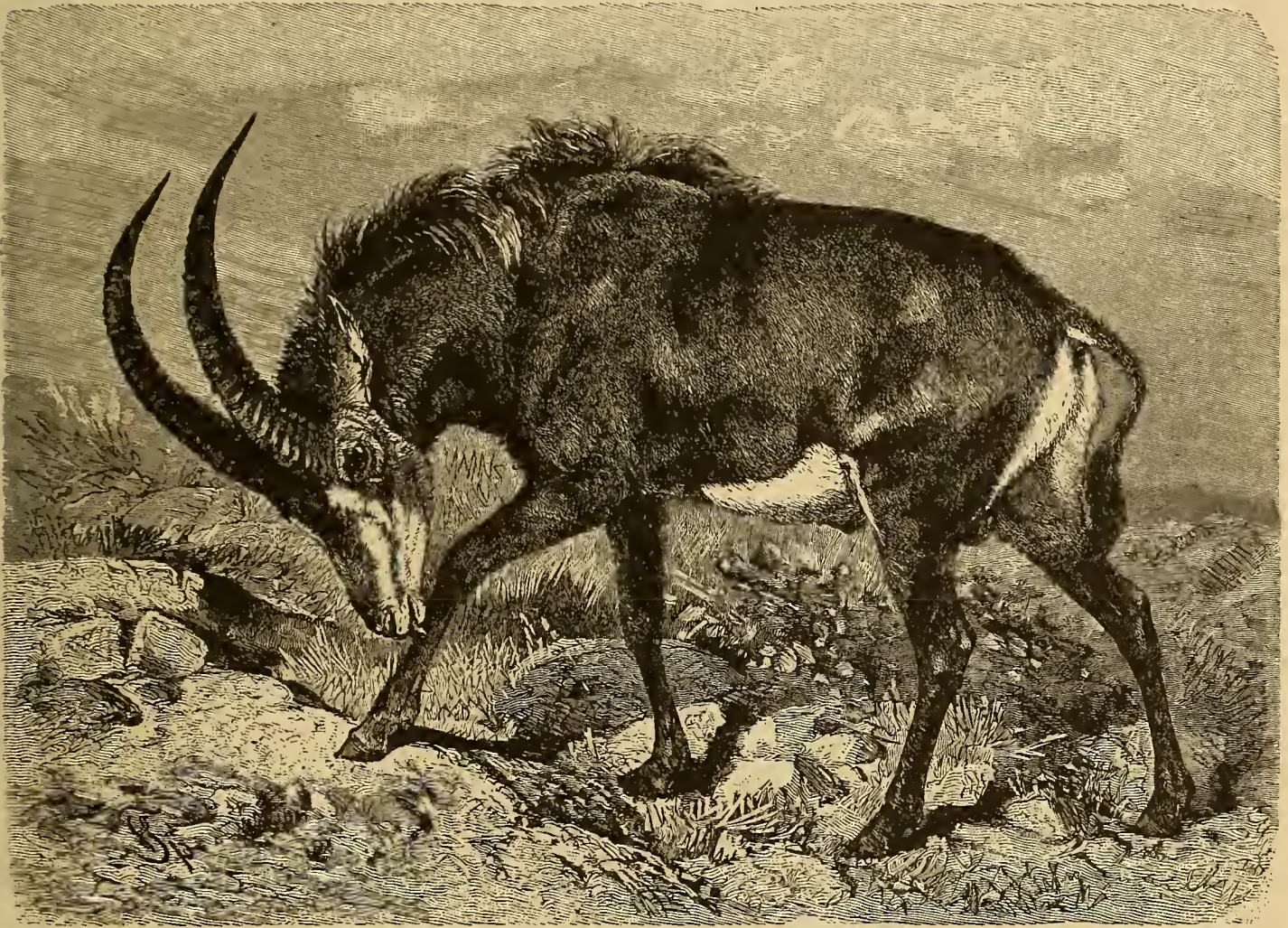
One of the largest of the Antelopes. Height at the shoulder about 5 feet; weight 600 pounds; color of male, bluish-gray; female brown. In some parts of India these Antelopes are very numerous, and cause much loss to the natives by trampling their fields of grain at night; the Hindus will seldom kill one of them, however, as they consider them the same as cows, and therefore sacred. The name means "blue cow."

startled, takes to the water and may be seen crossing a river in long lines, without disorder, and apparently with ease. They not only run with great swiftness, but can go up or down hill, as well as along the level plain, without any change of gait or showing any indication of tiring.

Sometimes several hundreds of these graceful creatures may be found

collected together in one herd. Always shy and timid, their large, beautiful eyes constantly scan the surface of the prairie, and are sure to see the lurking Indian, or wolf, no matter how cautiously he may creep.

Even if some rock or bush should hide the approach of the hunter, or the beast of prey, the keen sense of smell possessed by this Antelope will tell him just as certainly of the approaching danger, as if it were in plain sight. It is a well-known fact that, when hunting any wild animal, great



SABLE ANTELOPE; Africa.

This splendid Antelope stands $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height at the shoulder; in color it is glossy black, with pure white markings upon the face and lower parts. The horns are about one yard long, deeply ringed, and curve gracefully backward, ending in exceedingly sharp points.

care must be taken to approach it "against the wind", so that no tell-tale scent may be carried by the breeze to the sensitive nostrils of the game.

The Antelope tribe, above all others, is quick to smell danger, and the member of the herd to which first comes the warning scent, gives a peculiar call; upon hearing this the whole herd dash away and are soon lost to sight.

The hunter who hopes to have a shot at the prong-horn Antelope is often disappointed, for although his rifle may send the bullet a mile, the flying animals can only be caught sight of now and then, as they cross the raised knolls of the prairie, and in a very few moments the white patches on their backs disappear in the distance.

Large, well trained hounds will often overtake and pull down the Antelope; such dogs are very highly prized in the far west, not only for the sport they afford, but from the fact that they can catch wounded animals of all kinds, which would otherwise escape.

The young of the Antelope are born at about the same season as those of the common deer, from early in May to the middle of June; the little ones are not spotted with white like the fawn of the deer, but are dun-colored, like their parents. The doe remains by her young, of which there are usually two, for several days after they are born, feeding immediately around the spot where they are lying, and gradually enlarging her range. When the little Antelopes have reached the age of two weeks, they have gained strength and speed enough to escape, with their fleet-footed mother, from wolves or other four-footed foes.

Sometimes, however, the skulking wolf discovers and attacks the young, before they are able to run. At such a time the mother displays the most devoted courage in their defense. She rushes upon the enemy, butting and striking with her short horns, and sometimes tosses a wolf heels-over-head; she also strikes hard blows with her fore feet, and if there are but one or two of the wolves she can generally escape, and withdraws in safety, with her little family, to some steep and rocky hill-side which affords a secure pasturage.

The male Antelopes often fight with each other very fiercely; these combats usually taking place in the months of September and October. When a buck sees another approaching, or should two rivals accidentally meet, they rush together, with heads lowered, and eyes flashing angrily. While striking with their sharp horns they wheel and bound from side to side with the greatest rapidity, often giving and receiving severe wounds.

The Prong-Horn has a great deal of curiosity. Any very unusual sight or sound is apt to lure him onward in the hope of finding out what it may mean. This habit of the usually cautious and wary creature, is sometimes taken advantage of by hunters, who tie rags to the ends of long sticks, and wave them gently to and fro, above the grass of the prairie.

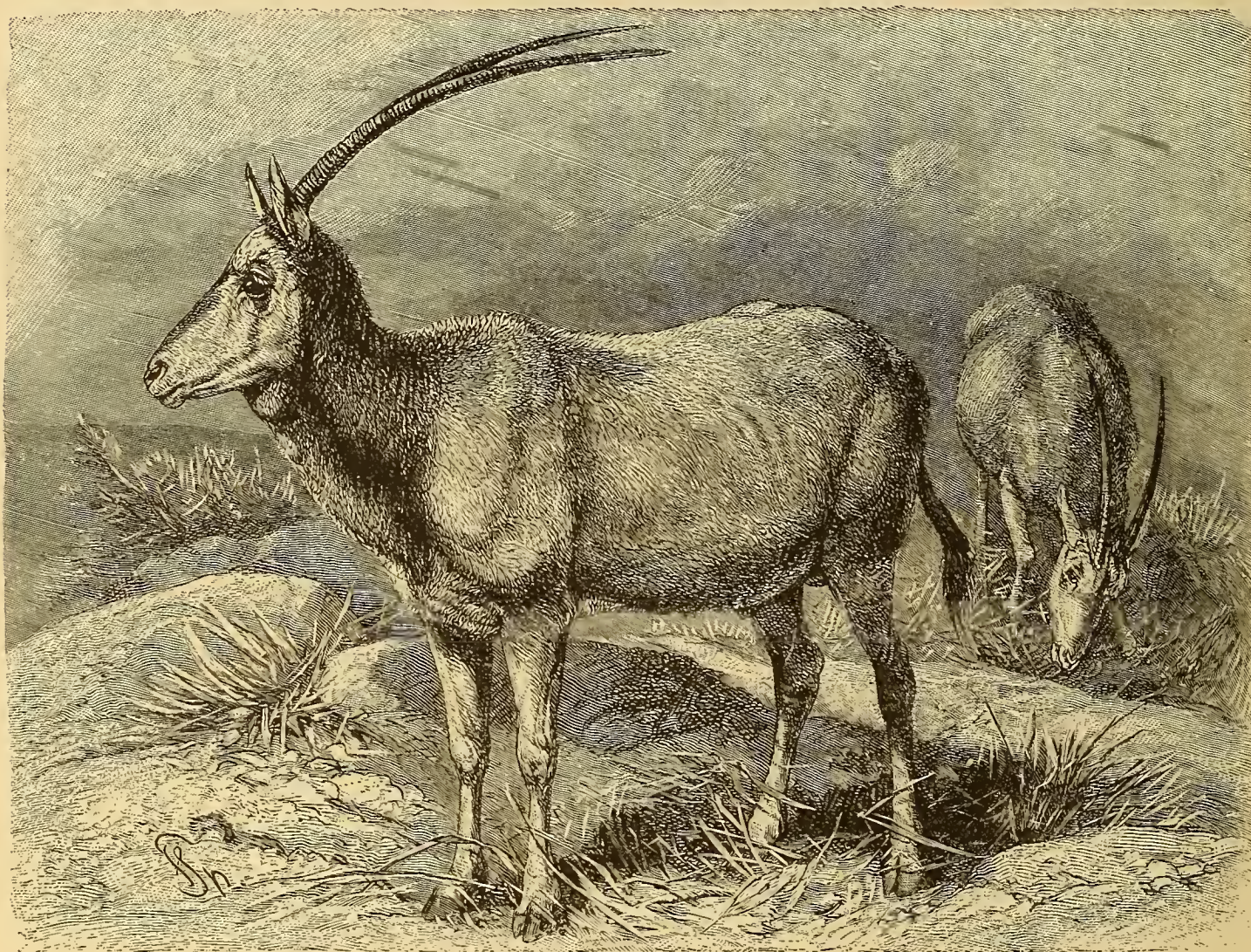
When the Antelope sees, what is to him the most mysterious sight of



KOO DOO (Africa).

This splendid animal is the handsomest of all the African Antelopes. In size, color, and the remarkable length and shape of its horns, it is most conspicuous. It stands 5 feet in height at the shoulder. Its coat is mouse color, with pure white stripes; and the horns, which are over 3 feet in length, are twisted like huge corkscrews.

his life, he first runs away, but it is only for a short distance; overcome with curiosity to see what the strange signal may mean, he halts, gallops to and fro, stamping the ground and snorting, but gradually drawing nearer and nearer to the hidden hunter, until he is at last within range, and pays for the indulgence of his fatal curiosity, with his life.



ORYX; Africa.

This Antelope is found only in certain parts of Africa. It is a medium-sized variety, standing about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height at the shoulder; in color it is a very light gray, with black markings upon the face and back. The horns are jet black and can be highly polished; they are but slightly curved and measure 1 yard in length, ending in exceedingly sharp points.

When suddenly alarmed or panic-stricken, the Prong-Horn seems to lose all sense of the direction in which the danger lies, although the terrifying object may be in plain sight. A ranch-owner who has had much experience in hunting western game says:—

I once tried to creep close up to a herd of about twenty Antelopes,

which were quietly feeding on a grassy slope, affording me but little shelter from their watchful eyes. Finally, I was obliged to stop for fear of alarming them, and cautiously rising behind a little hill, aimed at the leader of the herd and fired.

Supposing concealment now to be useless, I leaped up on the top of the hillock to see the effect of my shot. To my great disappointment, the bullet merely knocked up the dust to the right of the master buck.



WATER-BUCK; Africa.

This handsome Antelope is of large size, standing slightly over $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder, and attaining a weight of about 600 pounds; in color it resembles the common red-deer. The ringed horns show a double curve, bending backward at the base and curving forward again at the points. It is generally found near rivers and is apt to plunge into the water if alarmed.

Away went the band with the speed of the wind, while I stood on my hill and regretfully watched their flight. But suddenly, to my surprise, after running about a hundred yards, they halted and faced about into line, looking almost like a company of cavalry; the brown and white facings on their necks and heads, answering for the soldiers' uniforms.

In another moment they dashed forward at full speed, and to my intense astonishment, bore directly down in the direction of the little hill upon which I was standing. They continued straight onward until they reached its base, and there the band separated into two parties, which passed on either side of me, only fifty yards distant, thus giving me an opportunity to fire twice and bring down a pair of fine bucks, before the herd had passed out of range.

The western cow-boy of former days could get many a snap shot at the Antelope, as he rode among the out-lying cow camps, and happened by chance upon the herds. Occasionally a regular hunt would be made, and the wary game secured by fair stalking, and accurate shooting. It was frequently necessary for the hunter to crawl for half a mile, without allowing his head to appear above the grass, in order to get within range of the sharp-eyed creatures.

The method of hunting the prong-horn Antelope which is most in favor, is with greyhounds, the hunters themselves being mounted upon wiry little cow-ponies which are urged to their utmost speed by whip and spur, while far ahead the swift greyhounds, and their hardly less fleet prey, dash forward in their last desperate race for life.

AFRICAN ANTELOPES.

It is in Africa that Antelopes are found in the greatest numbers. The SABLE ANTELOPE; the KOO-DOO; the ORYX; the WATER-BUCK; the ADDAX and many other varieties roam in immense herds over the boundless pasture lands of that great continent, and their tender flesh forms not only the principal food for man in those regions, but also for the wild beasts of prey.

Beautiful in form, varied in coloring, and countless in numbers, the African Antelopes have long been celebrated among hunters and explorers for the opportunities they afford the skillful marksman, who is rewarded not only by a needful supply of meat for his followers, but can also preserve as a trophy the beautiful head, with its strangely shaped antlers, which take a high polish and serve in after years as mementoes of the chase.

A hunter and explorer, who has spent much of his life in the wilder parts of Africa, gives the following account of a hunt:—

I was shooting one day, with my native guide, who was an experienced

hunter and first-rate tracker. Knowledge of this kind was very necessary in that part of the country, for the ground was nearly covered with high grass that was not yet dry enough to burn well. During the rainy season in Southern Africa, the rank, coarse grass grows to such a height, that it would be impossible to travel through it, if some means were not taken to clear it away. Accordingly, as soon as it becomes dry, the natives set fire to it in all directions, and for a time the ground is left black and bare;



ADDAX; Africa.

This Antelope stands $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height at the shoulder; color grayish-white with black marking upon the face and back of the male. The horns have a slight spiral curve and are about 30 inches long.

but in that fertile soil, the young blades soon come up and a fresh growth of green appears.

In this place, where I was hunting, there had been several fires started, and small patches of ground were cleared, here and there, in which the young grass had quickly sprouted and was already growing to the height

of several inches. These open spaces, with their fresh green growth, were very attractive to the Antelope, and although we could not see for any distance ahead, on account of the tall herbage, the many fresh tracks showed there was plenty of game not far away.



AFRICAN GUIDE.

I was prowling along, examining the signs as I went, when I noticed my native guide searching carefully among the stems of long grass, which formed a thick wall upon each side of our path. Upon asking him what he was looking for, he declared that he had heard a young Antelope cry out and was sure it was concealed somewhere near.

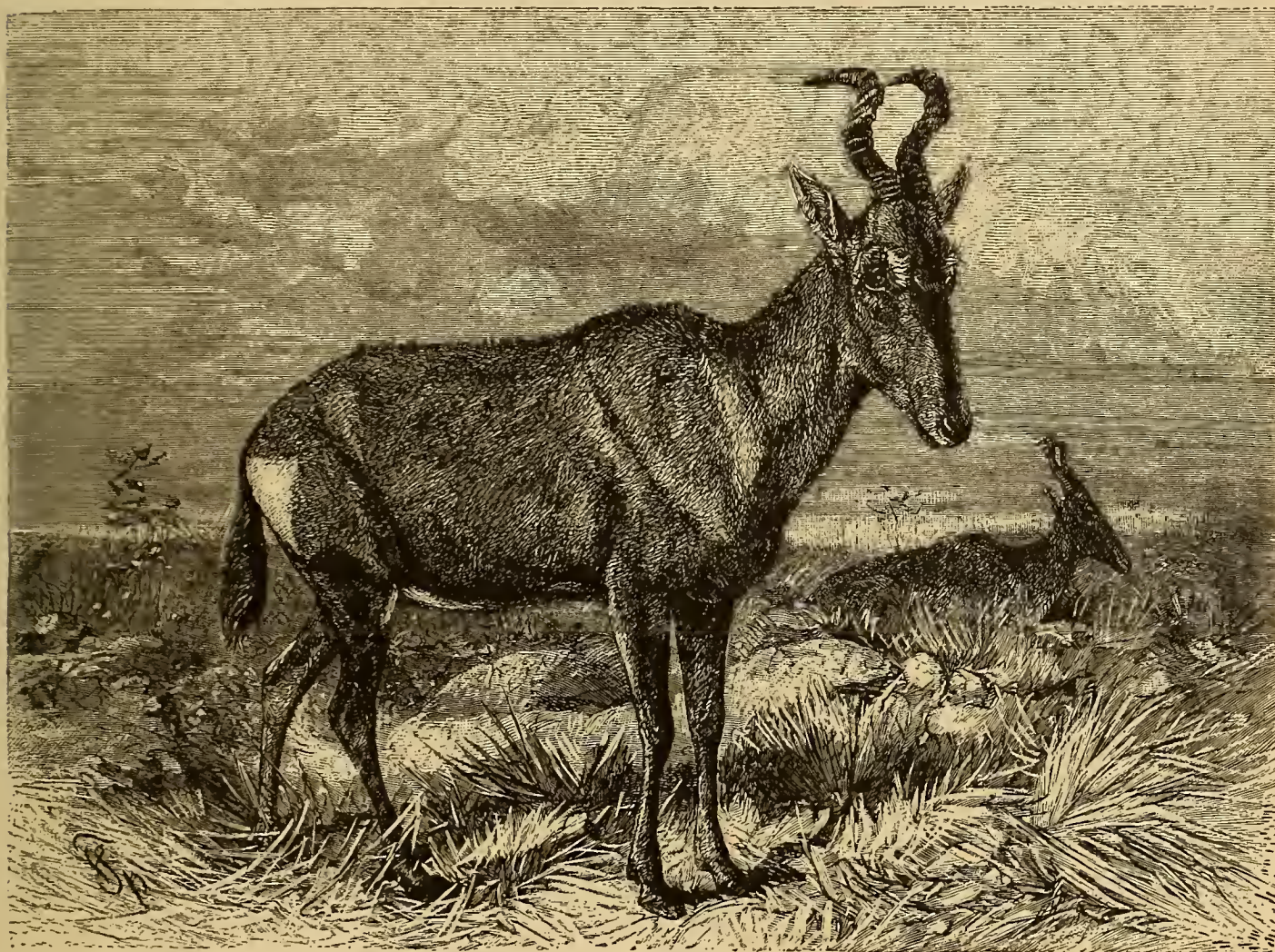
Soon I saw him with his spear raised, aiming at some object on the ground, a few feet to the right of the path. Before I could get near enough to see what he had found, a little Antelope sprang up from the place where it had been lying hidden, and raced away at great speed.

The spear at once flew from the native's uplifted hand, and striking the animal, passed just beneath the skin for some distance along the back, there remaining in the wound. The poor calf could not go far with this weight, and was soon caught by the active guide, who pulled out his spear, and finding that the young animal was not very badly hurt, asked me whether he should carry it back to camp alive. At that moment the frightened calf gave a loud scream and struggled violently to escape, continuing its calls of distress.

Soon we heard a rush among the high grass, and looking up, saw horns and heads appear above the tall yellow stems, as a herd of Hartbeest, leaping as they galloped, tried to see the cause of the cries.

In less time than it takes to tell it, some ten or eleven large Bubalis Antelopes, (called "Hartebeest" by the Dutch settlers), frantically rushed into the path and charged direct upon the native, who was kneeling down, with his arms around the struggling calf.

Hastily raising my rifle, I fired right and left within twenty yards, knocking over the leader upon the spot, and stopping the onward rush of



BUBALIS; OR "HARTEBEEST;" Africa.

The most common of the larger African Antelopes; height at the shoulder nearly 5 feet; weight about 600 pounds; color bright chestnut. Although large and rather heavily built, it is one of the swiftest of the African Antelopes. Its name, "Hartebeest," is given it by the Dutch settlers and literally means "hard beast" to kill, as only a well-directed rifle ball will pierce its tough hide and stop its flight.

the herd, which turned aside, leaving another of their number lying on the ground, the spoils of my second barrel. I reloaded quickly and fired a third shot, as they disappeared among the tall grass from which they had made their gallant charge to save the calf.

The Antelopes had evidently expected to find that the young one was

being attacked by some wild animal, and hoped to rescue it by advancing in full force.

We found the two dead Hartebeest without any difficulty; they were both fine bulls, the leader particularly having a splendid pair of horns, covered with deeply marked rings at the base, and curving suddenly backward at the sharp points. They looked like very dangerous weapons, and my attendant assured me that the natives were often injured by them when following a wounded *Bubalis* in the high grass.



COMMON GAZELLE; Africa and Arabia.

One of the smallest and most beautiful of the Antelope tribe; height about 30 inches; weight 60 to 70 pounds. In color these little animals exactly resemble the sands of the desert in which they live. Fleet, almost as the wind, their form is the perfection of grace, and muscular vigor.

Tying the calf so that it could not escape, we now started after the remainder of the herd. I urged my native attendant to be a little careful in approaching the animals, as I expected another charge, but he seemed to have such perfect confidence in my rifle, that the advice, as it afterward proved, was thrown away. Seeing a fine bull Antelope standing on a little hillock with only his head and neck appearing above the high

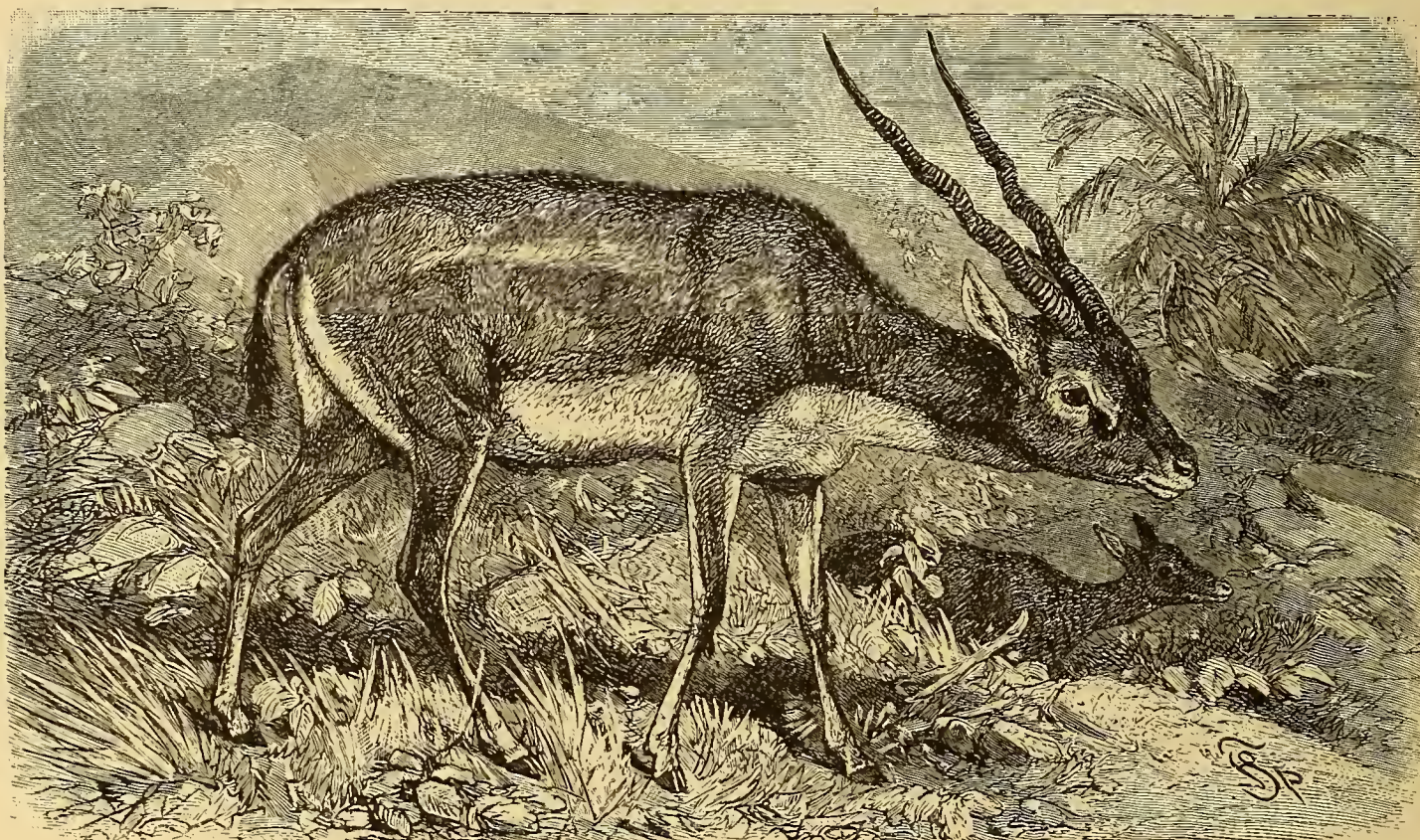


ELAND (South Africa).

Height at shoulder, 5 feet 6 inches; color, yellowish-brown. Of all the Antelopes this is the most Ox-like, and is greatly valued for its hide and flesh. It has been much hunted, and is no longer found near the Cape of Good Hope or the settled colonies of extreme South Africa, but lives in the desert to the north and west.

grass, we quietly advanced to within seventy-five yards of the unsuspecting animal, and crouching behind an ant-hill, I took very careful aim at the centre of the neck. The shoulder would have been the proper mark, but the head and neck only could be seen.

Waiting until the mark I was aiming at was perfectly still, I pulled the trigger. The head disappeared at once, but to my surprise, a herd of fifteen or twenty of the same animals dashed away from some high grass and bush, about one hundred yards distant, and I fired my remaining



BLACK-BUCK: Africa.

One of the most beautiful and graceful of the African Antelopes. Owing to its cautious, watchful nature and great swiftness of foot, it is very difficult to approach; all the hunter's skill and patience are required to get within gun-shot of it.

The horns are about 2 feet in length and contain three or four spiral, cork-screw-like turns. In height, the Black-buck stands a little over $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder; color brownish-black above, white below.

barrel at the last of the herd as they disappeared amid the dense yellow growth.

On going up to the bull I had first fired at, we found him lying dead; therefore, as nothing had fallen to my other bullet, we examined the tracks, and soon discovered blood upon the grass, in such quantities that it was certain the wounded Hartebeest could not have travelled very far.

Accordingly we followed up the well-marked trail, the native leading, with his spear held ready to strike. The grass was so dry that it rustled

as we brushed through it, and there would be no chance of our surprising the game. Twice we heard the Hartebeest rush away as we came near it, so we knew that we were getting close.

The native was leading at a rapid pace, considering the long tangled grass through which we were passing, when suddenly he hurled his spear; but at the same instant, the wounded Antelope charged directly down upon him, the spear sticking in its side. The sharp curved horns were lowered threateningly, and I thought for a moment that the man would be



GNU; South Africa.

Height about 4 feet at the shoulder; color black, with gray mane and tail; the horns are about 20 inches in length, broad at the base, and shaped like hooks.

pierced by them, but he jumped nimbly aside, and the animal, turning to follow him, presented his full side to my rifle. I aimed at the centre of the shoulder and the Hartebeest fell. The native thought this great fun, and laughed heartily as he returned to where the game was lying. But if there had been no rifle to stop the charge of the desperate beast, it might have been no laughing matter, as the spear had made but a slight wound.

We now had four large Antelope and a calf, as the result of the day's shooting. As this was all the meat that would be required for a week

to come, even by the big feeders among our many camp followers, I did not pursue the herd, but gave directions to dispose of the game that we had already secured, and retired to my hut, to enjoy an hour's well-earned rest.

When my men brought in the meat, they asked what should be done with the calf we had captured alive. Hoping it might be tamed, I had the young animal carefully tied by a long piece of rope, in the shade of a large tree that stood near our camp, but as it steadily refused to eat, I saw that it would soon die, so upon the following day had it released.

The GNU is the strangest looking, as well as the ugliest of the Antelope family. It looks more like a horse than an antelope, and in fact is sometimes called the horned horse.

They are not found in such large herds as some of the other Antelopes, and as their flesh is worthless they are not much hunted. They can run very fast and have a habit of prancing and kicking most furiously when suspicious of danger; from this the Dutch settlers call them the "Wildebeest."

THE CHAMOIS.

One of the most famous of the Antelopes is the CHAMOIS, which lives far up on the bare and rugged sides of the highest mountains of Europe.

It would seem that the narrow, stony ledges of the Alps, whose lofty summits tower thousands of feet above the level of the sea, would be a very unlikely place to find herds of Antelope, yet here lives this active little creature, asking nothing better than to dwell undisturbed upon the barren, wind-swept rocks.

Nature has specially fitted the Chamois for their life, almost among the clouds. They are wonderfully sure-footed and agile; leaping across chasms so deep, that we would tremble to look over them, yet always alighting safely on the other side, though the points of rock may be so small that all four little hoofs must be put close together to find a resting place.

Hunting these little animals is perilous work, but the hardy mountaineer who has lived all his life amid the dangers of this wild region, can creep along the very edge of dreadful precipices with as steady a foot as the Antelopes themselves, and, in his way, is quite as wonderful a climber.

Leaving his little cottage in the early morning, the hunter ascends the mountain-side. An old-fashioned muzzle-loading rifle is slung by a strap



CHAMOIS (European Alps).

Height at the shoulder, 2 feet 6 inches; length, about 3 feet; color, brownish-red. The Chamois is scarce in the Swiss Alps; but common in Austria, where they are more carefully preserved.

from his shoulders, so that it leaves his hands perfectly free, for he will be sure to need them in the narrow passes through which he must track his wary game. He also carries a bag in which is a spy-glass, drinking cup, ammunition, and food sufficient for a scanty meal or two; for he may be gone a long time. In one hand he carries his alpine-stock; this is a stout staff, with an iron-shod point at one end, and very often ornamented at the other by the small, black-curved horn of a Chamois that he has slain on some former chase.

The hunter steadily climbs up the mountain, until he reaches some high point of rock which commands a view in all directions. Here the spy-glass comes into use, and with it he scans all the surrounding slopes. He may see nothing from his lofty station, and then must climb to other dizzy heights; but at last he spies a few dark objects feeding in a sheltered nook, and knows they are the Chamois he is seeking.

Down some path, perhaps trodden only by himself, he then takes his way, careful that neither foot nor alpine-stock makes the slightest sound, or sets the stones a-rolling. He is very fortunate, if, by the time he has come within range of the game, they have not taken warning, by some slight noise, or faint scent borne upon the breeze, and bounded away to a still more elevated perch. Even when the hunter gets near to the Chamois and fires, he may only wound it, and then comes a dangerous chase along the ledges and stony passes of this lofty hunting ground.

When at last he overtakes the wounded creature, he rushes upon it, and with his hunting knife quickly puts an end to its struggles, then, throwing it over his brawny shoulders, starts on the toilsome and dangerous descent.

If in his pursuit of the swift-footed game, he has reached the most dangerous heights of the mountains, he will not be able to carry away the whole carcass, but can only take the skin and head as a trophy of his skill and daring, leaving the remainder upon the rocks to be devoured by the hungry vultures.

It is needless to say that the Swiss chamois hunters are hardy, brave and ready at expedients in the presence of danger. They are good judges of the weather, too, upon the character of which, the life or death of those who ascend to these great elevations may sometimes depend.

These men, therefore, make the most valuable and trustworthy guides for mountain climbers, and without their aid and experience, it would have been impossible to fully explore the cloud-piercing summits of the Alpine range.



THE FATAL SHOT.



BIG-HORN; Western North America.

Height of full-grown ram $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the shoulder; weight 350 pounds. The ewes average one-third smaller, and have horns only six inches long. Color light, reddish-brown in summer, changing to gray in winter. The enormous horns of the male, from which the animal takes its name, measure nearly 3 feet in length (around the curves), and 16 inches in circumference at the base.

WILD SHEEP AND GOATS.

Upon the lofty mountain ranges of different parts of the world live many kinds of wild sheep and goats. These creatures leap and climb about upon the steep sides of their desolate, rocky homes, and feed upon the scanty grass and moss which grows within the sheltered clefts.

All these mountain-dwelling animals are wonderfully active and strong, with such firmly knit bodies and sinewy, muscular legs that they can run swiftly up and down the steep faces of the cliffs, and find safe pasturage close to the brink of terrible precipices which tower thousands of feet above the plain.

The Rocky Mountain Sheep, or BIG-HORN, as it is commonly called, is the only American species of mountain sheep. Although by no means plentiful it is found over a considerable extent of country, ranging from

Southern California, to Alaska. Like all the cliff-dwellers it is so nimble and sure-footed, among the peaks and crags of its native heights, that the skill of the hunter is taxed to the utmost to get within rifle-range of the lofty pasture-grounds upon which it feeds.

The hunter, indeed, will consider himself very lucky, if, after crawling painfully along narrow ledges of rock, he comes within shot of the wary game, and finds that it has not taken alarm from some rolling stone, or warning scent upon the air, and disappeared as if supplied with wings.



WILD SHEEP OF TURKESTAN.

This magnificent species lives upon the great mountain ranges of Central Asia, at an elevation of 16,000 feet above the sea level. It is named *Ovis Polii*, after the celebrated Venetian traveller, Marco Polo, who met with it during his adventurous travels in the thirteenth century. It is of large size, standing nearly 4 feet in height at the shoulder; color brown, under parts white. The horns of the ram are unrivalled among the sheep tribe for their size, and for the bold, open sweep of their curves, which cause the points to stand out on each side at a level with the eye.

Wonderful tales are told about the Big Horn's ability to jump from a lofty height, and alight safely and unharmed upon its massive horns, which are supposed to receive the shock of the blow, and protect the creature from injury. It is hardly necessary to say that such stories as these are not true: they have been caused by the unusually large size of the horns, together with the wonderful powers as a jumper shown by this animal, when escaping from hunters who have followed it to its mountain home.

While a flock of Big-Horn are feeding, one of their number usually stands guard upon a neighboring cliff, to watch against the approach of an enemy: also, when seeking a place to sleep they choose the highest



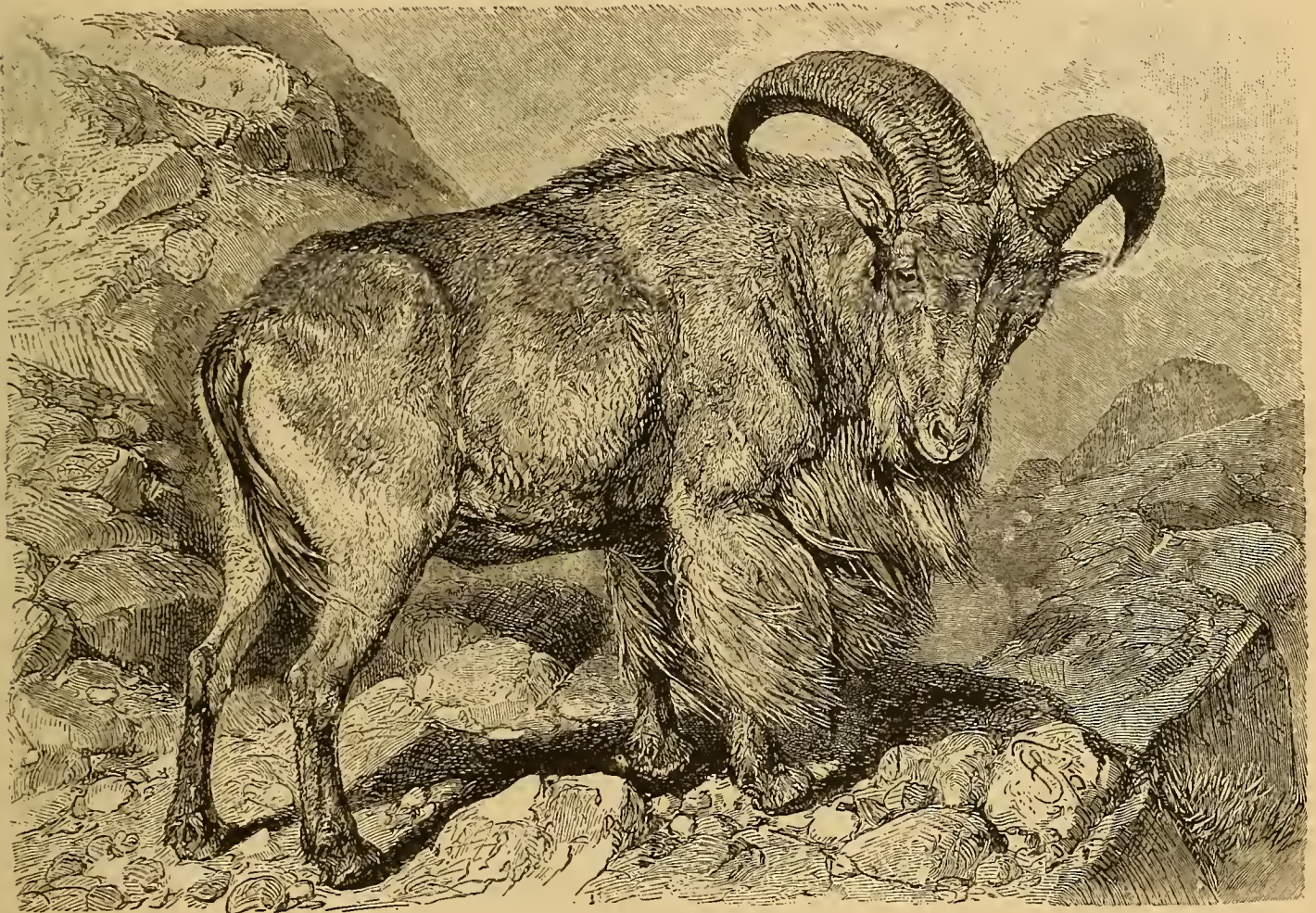
MOUFLON; Wild Sheep of Corsica and Sardinia.

Height at the shoulder $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet; color grayish-white. The horns of the rams are quite large, and sweep backward in a single curve. The ewes are entirely without horns.

point of land, so that a view can be obtained over a wide range of country, thus affording them security against surprise. They are well-grown, muscular

animals, and although not so graceful in form as the antelope, yet they will leap from crag to crag, run along narrow ledges, and bound over walls of rock, alighting upon piles of jagged stones, ten, or even fifteen feet below, with a courage and sureness of foot that will command the admiration of all who can see them in their wild retreats.

A full-grown, Big-Horn ram weighs about three hundred and fifty pounds; instead of wool it has a heavy coat of stiff, coarse hair, of a light



MANED SHEEP OF THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS; Northern Africa.

Height at the shoulder 3 feet; color reddish-brown. This animal is in some respects more like the goat than the sheep. It lives among the rocky crags of the Atlas mountains. Its coat is woolly, except upon the chest and shoulders, which are covered with a curious mane of long, coarse hair. The horns are long, broad at the base, and have but little curve.

brown color in summer, and turning to gray in the winter; in height it measures about three feet six inches at the shoulder.

The great, curved horns of the bucks, which have caused this species to be given its popular name, are its most remarkable feature. Large specimens have been found to measure sixteen inches around at the base, and a yard in length. The horns of the ewe are small, seldom measuring more than six or eight inches from base to tip.

Unlike the antlers of the Deer tribe, which are made of close-grained, solid bone from base to point, the horns of the Sheep, Goat and Antelope, as well as those of Oxen and Cows, are hollow, or at least, filled with soft and spongy material throughout the greater portion of their length. Although these kinds of horns look very heavy and hard, their polished flint-like surface is merely a shell, which covers the softer, central core. Owing to this structure they do not weigh as much, in comparison with their bulk, as the more slender, but solid antlers of the Deer.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT.

Weight about 100 pounds; color white. The coat consists of fine wool mingled with long, straight hair. There are but few of our native animals of which so little is known as the Goat of the Rockies. Solitary in its habits, it lives upon the bleak and barren mountains of far Northwestern America. It is of a most shy and wary nature, and the hunter who would successfully stalk them must climb to their lofty retreats, armed with a good rifle, and prepared to encounter great exposure and hardship.

There are many varieties of wild sheep found throughout the world. The largest are those which live on the great mountain ranges of Central Asia.

Owing to the rugged nature of the country in which most of these large breeds of wild sheep are found, little is known of their habits, but it is certain that in these they closely resemble the Big-Horn, of this country. They are all strong-limbed, sure-footed animals, and graze upon the grass

and moss, among the shelving rocks of their native mountains, with as much contentment and security as the tame herds of the farmer, upon the level plain.

The many different kinds of WILD GOATS, which share with the wild sheep their dangerous pasture grounds upon the high mountains of the world, are mostly long-horned, hardy fellows; some of them looking but



WILD GOAT OF PERSIA.

The horns of this species are probably larger, in proportion to the animal carrying them, than those of any other goat. In size of body the Persian Goat resembles the domestic variety. Its neck is short and strong, to bear the weight of the enormous horns; in color it is usually brown. Attempts have been made to trace the descent of the domestic goats from this variety, but it is probable that the different breeds of tame goats have descended from ancient species which have long ago become extinct.

little like the goats we are accustomed to see, but resembling them in their fondness for climbing about upon steep places, which all goats, wild or tame, seem to possess alike.

The IBEX, of the Alps, is one of these wild species which is most celebrated for its size and strength. Its horns tower above its head to a height of three feet, and are so large and heavy, and so completely covered with knobs or rings, as to look as if made for an animal twice its size.

A hunter who has followed the Ibex to the dizzy heights where it dwells, thus describes the difficulties and dangers which he encountered.

HUNTING THE IBEX.

After hours of scrambling, over boulders of rock and across beds of hard, frozen snow, which streaked the sides of the mountain in places sheltered from the wind, we came to the brink of a precipice, over which our guide cautiously peered. He at once began to wriggle backward with a lighting up of the face, showing as plainly as words could have spoken it, that the Ibex were in sight.

When he joined me he said that he had seen three of the animals; one of them a buck with fine horns, and that he could lead me around by another path to a place where I could get a shot.

After a hard climb we came to a huge level slab, beneath an overhanging cliff. I looked over the edge and found an ample reward for my labors, for there just below, about two hundred feet distant, were the buck Ibex and two does which the guide had first discovered. Although the distance which separated me from them was not great, the slab of rock on which I was standing was so smooth and sloping, that I could hardly keep my feet while bringing my long-barrelled rifle slowly forward, to point it at the unsuspecting buck, feeding just below.

As soon as I felt myself firmly planted on the slanting rock, and had taken good aim, I gave a low whistle. The startled buck at once raised his head and stood perfectly motionless, with ears erect, as if to catch the direction of the sound. Bringing the fine sights of my rifle to bear on his fully exposed breast, I pulled the trigger. The moment the smoke cleared away, to my great delight, I saw the buck floundering on his back, with his four legs pawing the air. Fearing that he would, after all, escape I fired again, after which he rolled over and lay perfectly still. If I had been armed with a breech-loading, or repeating rifle I could have killed a doe, as they were so panic stricken, at the fall of their leader, that it was some moments before they dashed off. I was quite satisfied, however, with having killed a buck Ibex, one of the rarest and most wary animals in Europe.

Although my aim had been true and the game lay dead where it had fallen, I doubt whether I should have obtained the horns and skin, had it not been for my stalwart guide Guiseppe, who, knowing the ground, soon found a narrow path by which we could descend to the place where the herd had been feeding.

As it was, we had to use the axe several times to cut steps in the steep slope, and to knock away the icicles formed by the drippings from the snow



IBEX; European Alps.

Height 3 feet at the shoulder; color gray. The remarkable horns of this animal are about 1 yard in length. It lives upon the rocky slopes and ledges of lofty mountains, and is as shy and difficult to hunt successfully as the Chamois.

above. At last, however, we reached the place and found the buck lying dead among the stones beneath the ledge from which we had climbed.



CASHMERE GOAT; Northern India.

3 feet in height at the shoulder; color grayish-white. This species is domesticated, and highly valued for its fine coat, which consists of both wool and hair. It is the short, fine wool which lies close to the skin that is valuable, and not the longer, outer hair.

This wool is very soft and silky; it begins to grow in the autumn, and is in the best condition in the following spring, when it will fall off naturally if not removed. At this season the goats are herded together and carefully combed until all the fine wool is collected, and separated from the coarser hair. The fleece from a full-grown goat weighs only a $\frac{1}{2}$ pound. It is from this soft, fine wool that the celebrated cashmere shawls are made.

Taking the skin, head and bones, but leaving the flesh, as it was too rank for food, we made our way safely back again to the foot of the mountain, where I showed the spoils of the chase to many admiring friends.



BLACK RAT.

COMMON BROWN RAT.

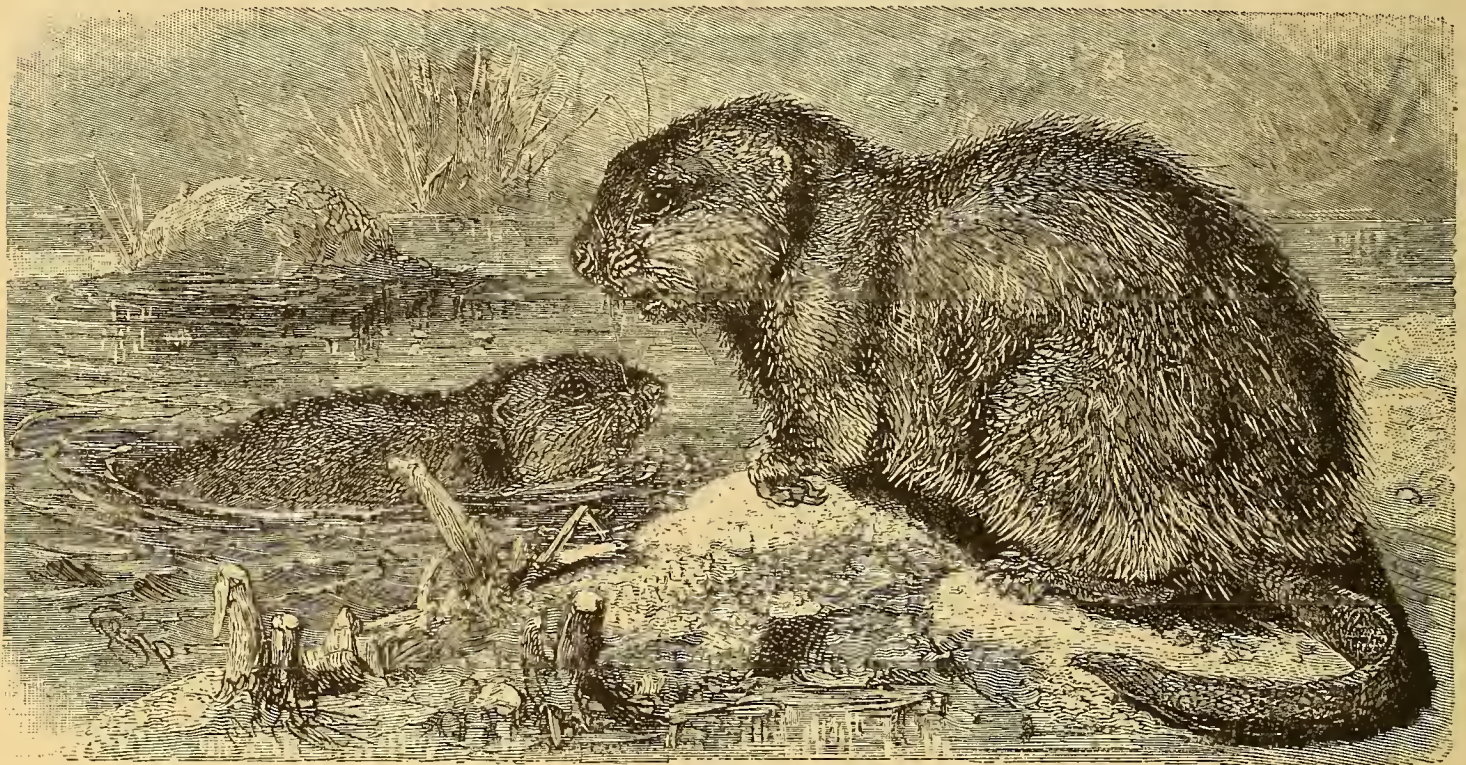
THE RODENT, OR GNAWING ANIMALS.

The kind of teeth that an animal has show quite plainly the family to which it belongs, and to a certain extent, tell us its habits. Thus the Carnivorous, or meat-eating animals, have sharp, pointed teeth with which to tear the flesh of their prey. The Ruminant, or cud-chewing animals have broad, flat teeth, with rough surfaces, to grind up the grass and leaves which form their food. The Rodent, or gnawing animals, such as Rats, Mice, Rabbits and Squirrels, have teeth that grow continually during their whole lives. These constantly-growing teeth not only enable, but compel their owners to gnaw hard substances the greater part of the time, in order to keep them ground down to the proper length.

We may sometimes think that the troublesome Rats, for instance, gnaw the wood-work of our houses merely from a love of mischief, or a desire to destroy, but this is not so; the creatures are obliged to keep their teeth constantly employed to prevent them from growing too long.

Sometimes it happens with animals of this kind, that the upper and lower incisors, or cutting teeth, do not properly meet, one of them perhaps, having been lost. No longer able to gnaw, the opposing teeth keep growing longer and longer, until the unfortunate animal either starves—because unable to move its jaws—or is killed by the curved tooth growing upward until it pierces the brain.

Though constantly gnawing hard substances, the cutting teeth of these animals are always sharp. This is owing to the front side being covered with a thin plate of hard, flint-like enamel, while the inner portion is



MUSK-RAT; North America.

Length of body 1 foot; tail 8 inches; color dark brown. The fur is very soft and thick, protecting the animal from the water.

softer and wears away more rapidly. The ends of the teeth therefore slope like the edge of a chisel, the sharp outer edge being hard enamel.

The animals of the Rodent order are very numerous, and are scattered over the whole world. They vary greatly in size—from the tiny mouse, to the heavy-bodied Beaver or long-legged Hare; but most of them are small and weak, depending for safety, from their numerous enemies, upon their ability to hide in burrows and holes.

Those with which we are apt to be most familiar, are the Rats and Mice which seem to follow man to every part of the world. Even the ship at sea, and the dark coal mine, hundreds of feet below the surface of the

ground, are the homes of countless Rats which live and thrive amid these apparently unfavorable surroundings.

The Common, or Brown Rat is the most numerous. It is not a native of this country, but was probably first brought in ships from some Eastern land. There is another species of Rat called the Black Rat. It is smaller and less numerous than the Brown, which always fiercely attacks and kills the Black Rat should it come within its reach.

The MUSK-RAT is a much more respectable member of this family, for it lives a free and open-air life, far from the dwellings of man. It makes its home by the side of some quiet creek or river, and either burrows a hole in the bank, in which to place its nest, or if the margin of the stream is too low and muddy for that, it will build a mound of leaves and sticks, the upper part of which is higher than the level of the water, and contains a dry and cosy nest.

Somewhat like the Rat in shape and size, but far more cleanly and attractive, are the SQUIRRELS.

While walking through the woods in the summer time a sudden scratching upon the bark of a neighboring tree may startle us, and looking quickly around, we catch sight of a nimble little creature running swiftly up the trunk.

It cunningly prefers to keep on the side of the tree farthest away, until it reaches a safe height, when it will sit down upon a limb, in plain view, and we see that it is a Squirrel. There it will sit, chattering angrily, until the intruder has passed out of sight.

Among the different varieties of Squirrel, there are three kinds which are very common throughout the United States. They are the Gray Squirrel, the



SQUIRREL.

Red Squirrel, and the little striped Chipmunk which can so often be seen running along the fence rails, or tops of stone walls.

Squirrels build nests of leaves and grass, high up in the branches of tall trees. Here they pass the winter, snug and warm, with a good supply of nuts which they always save from the summer supply. They also make their homes in hollow logs and holes in the ground.



FLYING-SQUIRREL • North America.

Total length about 10 inches; color brown, gray, and white. The fore and hind limbs are connected by a thin band of skin which, when stretched by the spreading of the legs, resists the air and gives sufficient support to the light body of the little animal to enable it to sail downward, in a slanting course, from topmost boughs to the lower branches of neighboring trees.

HARES AND RABBITS are known the world over, and when not so numerous as to destroy our gardens and fields by their nibbling ways, attract every one by their soft coats, and timid, graceful forms.

The Hare is larger than the Rabbit, with longer body and legs. When running, they both take long leaps; the hind legs being of much greater length, and far more powerful than the forelegs. The creature moves along with a succession of hops or bounds, varying from one to four yards in length. When at full speed, the little creature scarcely seems to touch the ground before it is again in air, and in the midst of another leap.

Among the largest of this numerous tribe are the great prairie hares of the Western States, or JACK-RABBITS as they are usually called. These long-eared, long-legged racers fear no pursuer but the best bred grey-hound. Their speed, and the space they clear at every bound is simply wonderful.

Like most of the larger hares, they do not burrow deeply in the ground, but make a nest in a hole or depression, just large enough for

their bodies. These deep nests, together with the surrounding grass, serve to hide them completely from the eye. Here the Jack-Rabbit likes to sleep during the greater part of the day, not venturing forth into the sunlight unless disturbed by some enemy—when, out he will jump, and disappear with such a lightning-like rush, as to render breathless with astonishment the stranger who may have blundered upon his hiding place.

In California the Jack-Rabbits are so numerous as to cause great loss



COMMON HARE.

This species is found, with variations of size and coloring, in almost all parts of the world except Australia. In North America there are several varieties of Hare, the largest being the so-called "Jack-Rabbit" of the prairies.

to the farmers by eating up the grass, fruit, and growing vegetables. So rapidly do they breed, that in one year four litters, each consisting of from four to five little ones, are raised by a single pair.

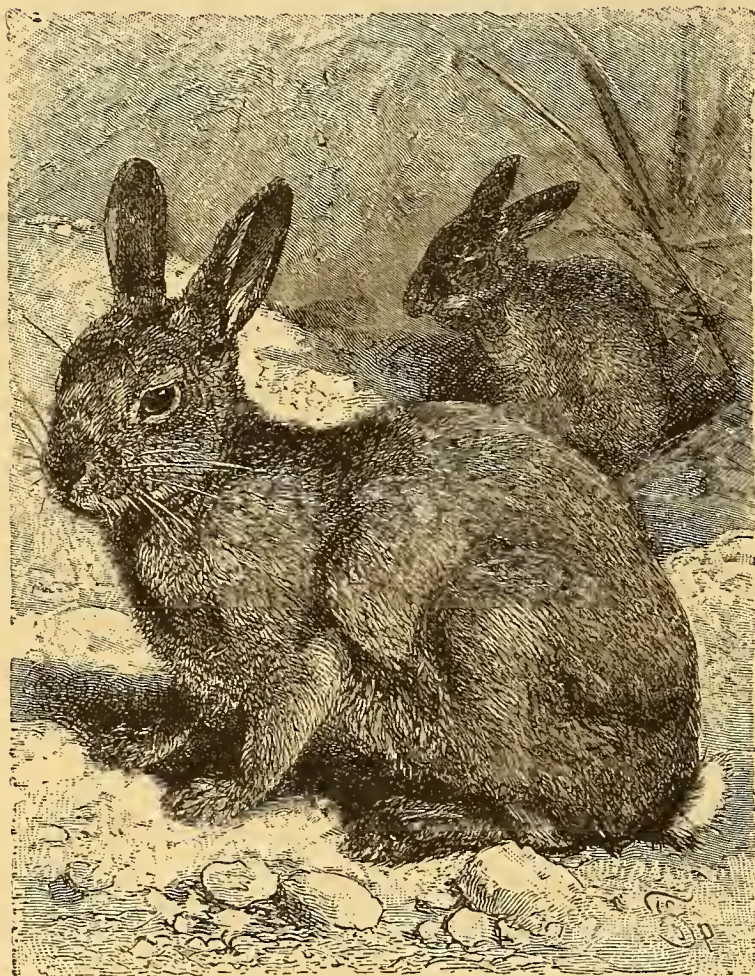
Great hunts or drives are sometimes undertaken in California, in which hundreds of men and boys form in line, and string out over miles of prairie. The line travels across the country, the centre moving slowly, the ends

rapidly, until gradually a circle is formed, within which are all the frightened hares which have lived on the ground over which the line has passed.

The hunters draw closer and closer together; soon a leaping, dodging mass of Hares is seen. Smaller and smaller grows the circle, until the ground in the centre is seen to be so covered with the madly rushing Hares as to be hidden from view. At a given signal the clubs are raised, there is a shout from the crowd, and the work of slaughter begins. The terrified animals rush together in a mass—those underneath being often

found smothered to death. Blows from the clubs fall crashing downward on the heads and backs of all that can be reached, and numbers are trampled to death by the hurrying feet of the crowd. As many as five thousand Jack-Rabbits are frequently killed in one of these drives, and cruel though such destruction may seem to persons who have not suffered losses from their tireless jaws, it is certain that this method of hunting is necessary to rid the country of the nibbling hordes.

The Rabbit differs from the Hare, not only in its shorter, more compact body, and smaller size, but also in its habit of making deep burrows, into which it can run if alarmed. Rabbits live in large companies, numbering hun-

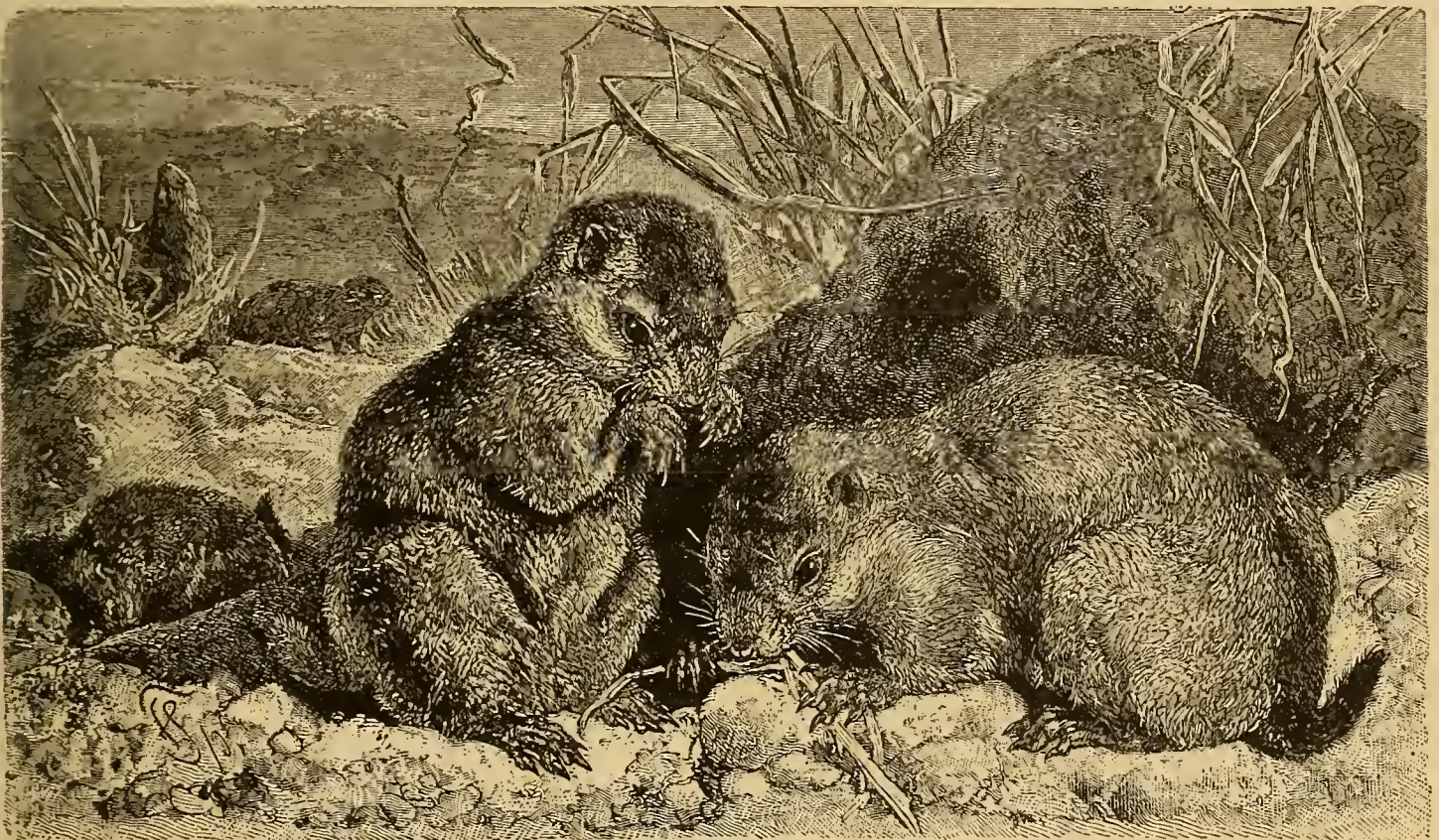


RABBIT.

dreds, and even thousands. These breed so rapidly, that every year the number of the colony increases two, or three fold. In Australia, where the Rabbits were first introduced as pets, by the English settlers, they have multiplied into a great army which devours not only every green thing over thousands of acres, but gnaws the bark from bushes and young trees. They have become such a destructive pest that there is a standing reward of a large sum of money to the person who may suggest a method by which their numbers can be largely reduced.

The common Wild-Rabbit, so-called, of the United States, is really a species of small hare. Its reddish-brown fur, and white tail are familiar to almost every one who has spent a few days in the country, and who has been startled to see it bound, almost from under foot, and disappear, in a series of jumps, among the neighboring bushes.

The Marmot, or PRAIRIE-DOG as it is usually called, lives in large colonies on the sandy plains of the far west. They dig deep burrows in the soil, sometimes covering several acres of ground with hillocks



PRAIRIE-DOGS; Western United States.

Length of body 10 inches, tail 4 inches; color sandy-brown above, yellowish-white below.

and holes. Each little householder will sit upright at the mouth of his burrow, squeaking, or barking his displeasure at any trespasser who may draw near, and suddenly disappearing, with a flirt of his tail upon too close an approach.

Prairie-Dogs seem to prefer sandy or gravelly soil for their homes, and are consequently often found in the barest and most desolate places. Their constant burrowing, under the surface of the prairie, makes unsafe footing for horses, as many a rider has found to his cost.

The Wood-Chuck, or Ground-Hog as it is commonly called, is one of the largest and heaviest of the gnawing animals. It is found, with slight variations, in many different parts of the world, Europe and Asia, as well as in North America.

It might be thought strange that a wild animal of the size of the Wood-Chuck, should still be found in such numbers in our thickly settled Eastern States; especially, when it is considered how many enemies he makes by his destructive appetite for grass, clover, early vegetables, and indeed every green thing that may be near his burrow. One reason for his continued presence, is the secure home that he makes for himself, deep down in the ground, often beside, or under some big rock or boulder, which will save him from being dug out. Then also, the Wood-Chuck is a most watchful and cautious creature, never venturing far from his hole, unless quite sure that no enemy is near.

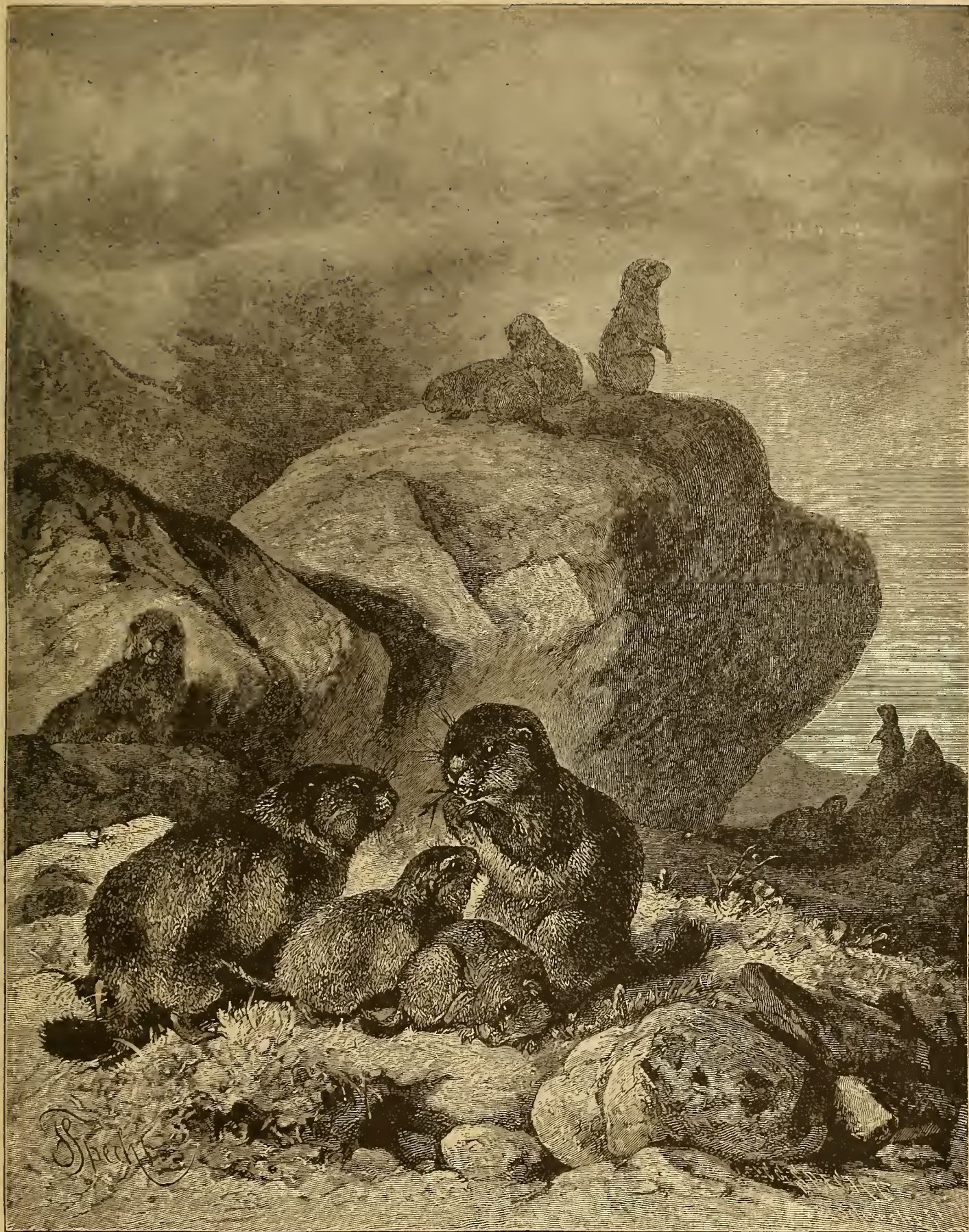
His favorite pastime seems to be to sit erect and motionless upon his hind quarters, at the mouth of his burrow, remaining so perfectly still as to deceive all but the most experienced eye; his gray coat and round body seeming, at a little distance, to be only a bit of lifeless rock or stone.

The Wood-Chuck hibernates, or sleeps, all winter in his snug burrow. Early in February he is said to come out to look for signs of spring, but should he see his shadow on the ground, he turns back for another six weeks' sleep. If, however, the sun is not shining on this momentous occasion, he is supposed to see no shadow, and consequently stays awake to welcome an early spring.

Of all the gnawing animals, none have stronger or sharper teeth than the BEAVER; and certainly none shows as much intelligence in using them. With their teeth the Beavers can gnaw down trees more than a foot thick, and afterwards cut off the branches, and divide up the trunks into suitable lengths for floating down stream to their dam.

In the deep forest that covers the northern part of the State of Maine, Beavers can sometimes be found at work. They quickly disappear in the neighboring stream, but the result of their labor is, fortunately, not capable of such sudden removal, and proves upon examination to be most interesting; a dozen or more beech trees, ranging from five to ten inches in thickness, have been cut down in the most workmanlike manner, thus showing how they have been employed.

The Beaver is at home in the water, and is always found either in, or



WOOD-CHUCK, or GROUND HOG (North America).

Animals of this species, and showing but slight variation in size and color, are found in Europe and Asia. The American species is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in total length, 6 inches of which is the tail. In color it is brownish-gray, with black marking. [279]

near a stream. Its house is built of mud and sticks, and looks like a great heap of rubbish, six to eight feet high, but inside there is a comfortable room, carpeted with fine chips, grass, and moss, where six or seven Beavers can sleep in safety. The doorway of the Beaver's house is always under water. There is no entrance on the land side, only a burrow leads to its grass-covered chamber; this burrow opens in the river's bank below the surface of the water, so the Beaver must dive down to find his front door, and crawl upward along the burrow before he can reach the dry floor of his home; but when once there, he is safe from all intruders.

The dams built by the Beavers are for the purpose of raising the water to a height sufficient to cover the entrances to their houses, and also—and this is generally the main reason—to obtain sufficient depth of water to float down the bark-covered logs, used for food, which are always found piled up near their houses, and which are sometimes brought from a considerable distance up stream.

The Beaver's beautiful coat of fur has caused him to be mercilessly hunted and trapped. Great care and skill must be used in setting the trap or the Beaver will not go near it. Down in the water, just before the door of his house is the place usually chosen for the fatal snare. The pebbles and sand are brushed away and the steel jaws put in place, after which the trapper skilfully covers the place with sand and pebbles again.

The trap is chained to a heavy stone, so when the Beaver is caught by the leg he is held under water until drowned. The trappers say that it would be useless to set a trap upon the land, for even if caught, the animal would at once cut off the imprisoned leg with his sharp, chisel-like teeth, and thus escape.

So keen has been the pursuit of this valuable fur-bearing animal, that in this country, it is only in the wildest parts of forest-covered regions that any Beavers are to be found.

The PORCUPINE is so well protected by its sharp quills which stand out a foot from its body, that no animal, no matter how large or fierce it may be, dares to touch it.

When the Porcupine is not disturbed, or angry, its armor-like coat lies flat, and close to its back, looking very smooth and harmless. But once let the creature be alarmed, its bristling quills are raised up, so that hundreds of keen-pointed weapons face the attacking wolf or dog.

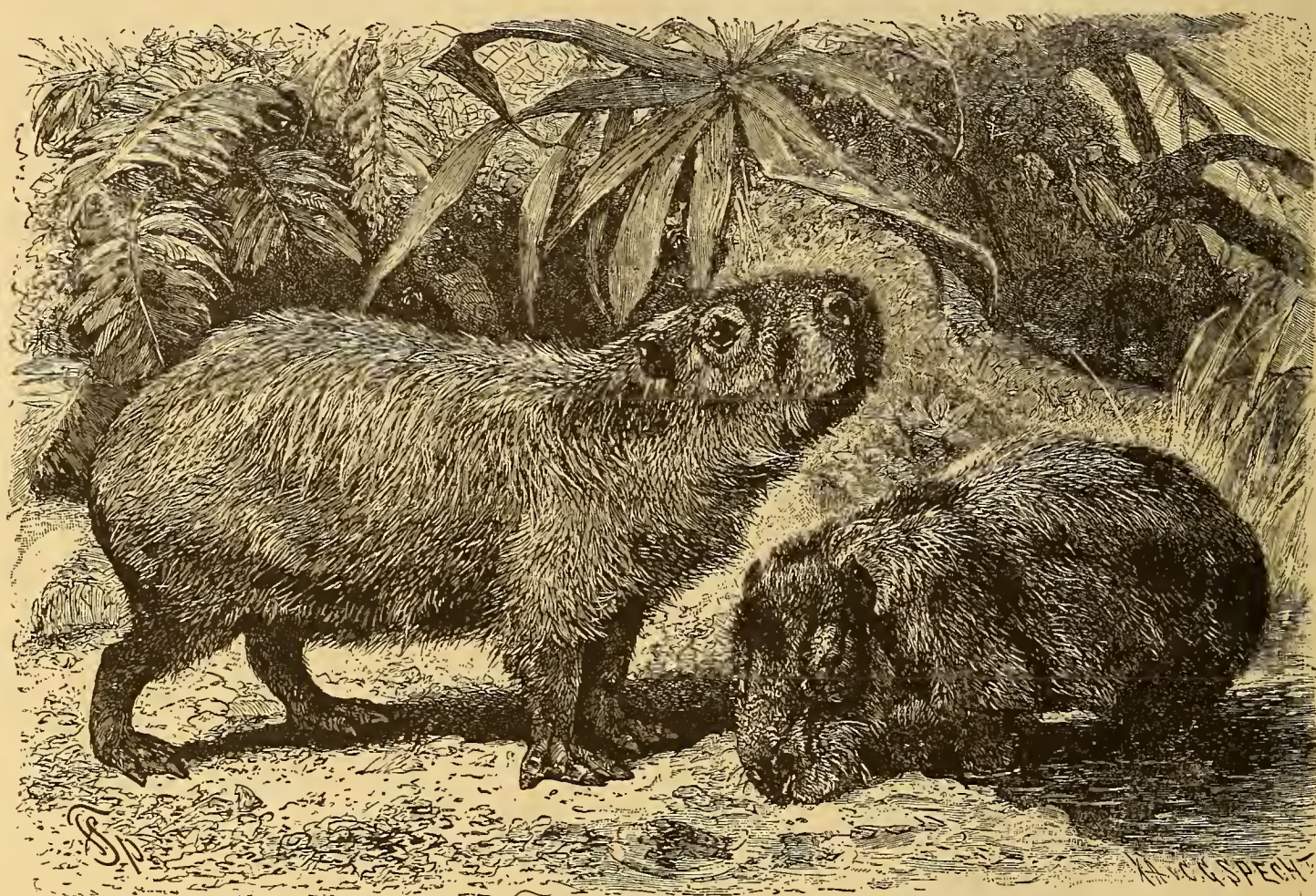


BEAVER (North America, Europe and Asia).

Length of body, 2 feet; tail, 10 inches; weight, 45 to 50 pounds; the color of the valuable fur is dark brown. The tail is a very remarkable feature, being flat or paddle shaped, and covered with scaly, hairless skin.

When attacked, the Porcupine turns its back to the foe, raises its quills and places its head between its front paws, uttering all the while a low, grunting sound. If the enemy comes nearer the Porcupine tries by a backward, or sideways movement to thrust the quills into its body. The wounds thus made are very painful, and the quill easily becomes detached, remaining in the wound, and causing an inflamed sore.

The Porcupine, however, is not quarrelsome, but is of shy and solitary



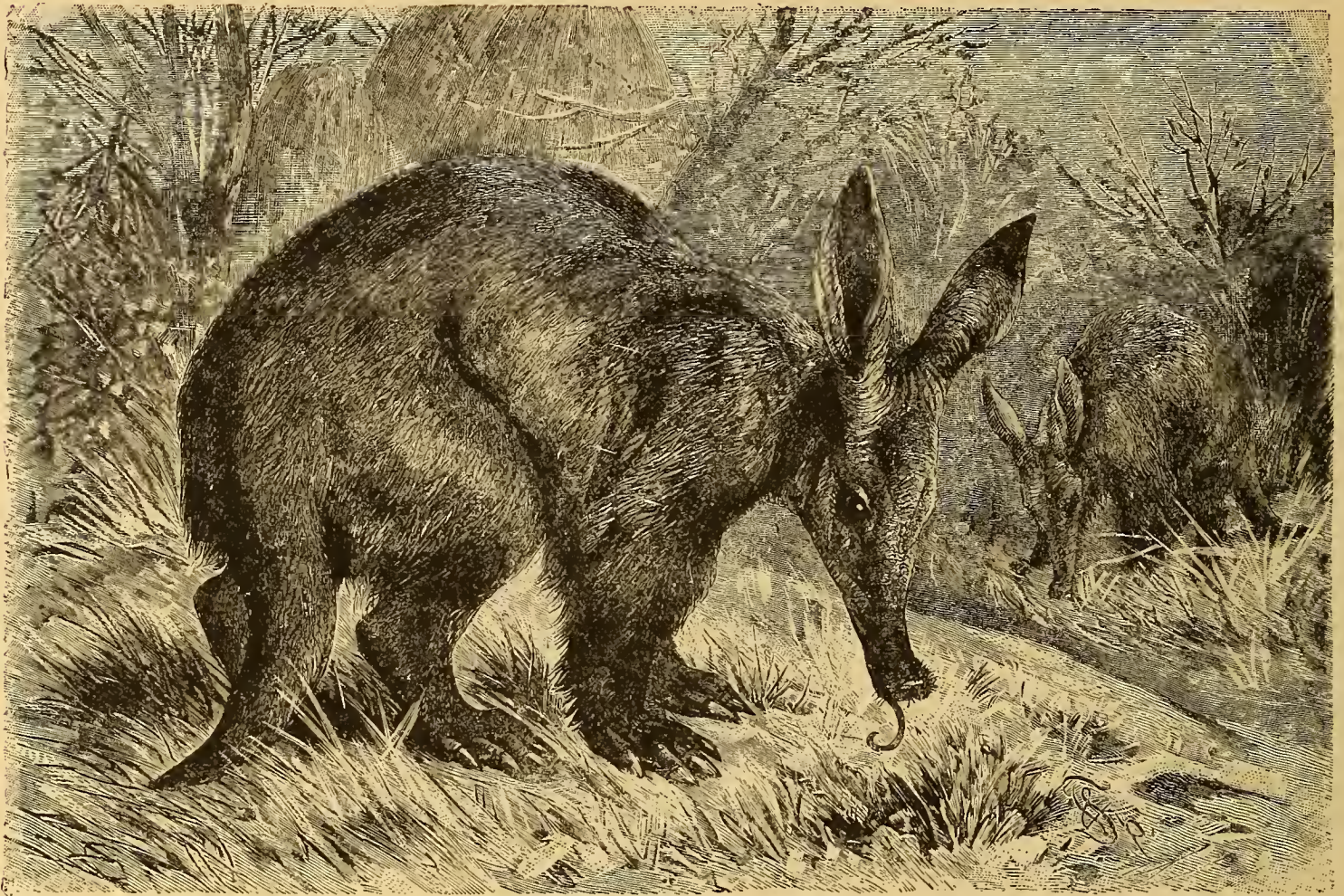
CAPYBARA; South America.

This animal is the largest of the Rodent family, measuring when full grown, 4 feet in total length. Its coat is coarse hair, reddish-brown in color and four to five inches in length. The Capybara is never found far from lakes or rivers; if alarmed it at once plunges into the water, where it swims and dives with ease. Its greatest enemy is the Jaguar.

nature, moving about and feeding principally at night, and living in deep burrows in the ground, or in the trunks of hollow trees. There are several kinds of Porcupine found in North and South America; the largest is the Canadian Porcupine. It is as large-bodied as the European variety but has only short spines or quills, an inch or two in length; these are quite buried in the fur, and cannot be seen unless raised for defence. The American Porcupines are good climbers, and there is one variety, found in South America, which lives almost entirely in the trees.



LONG-QUILLED PORCUPINE (Southern Europe and Northern Africa).
Length of body, 2 feet; tail, 4 inches; color, black and white.



CAPE ANT-EATER; Southern Africa.

Length from nose to tip of tail $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

TOOTHLESS ANIMALS. THE ANT-EATER.

Animals of the so-called toothless tribe, although not entirely without teeth, do not have any in the front of their jaws, but upon careful examination a few molar, or grinding teeth can usually be found in the back part. The Ant-Eater belongs to this tribe.

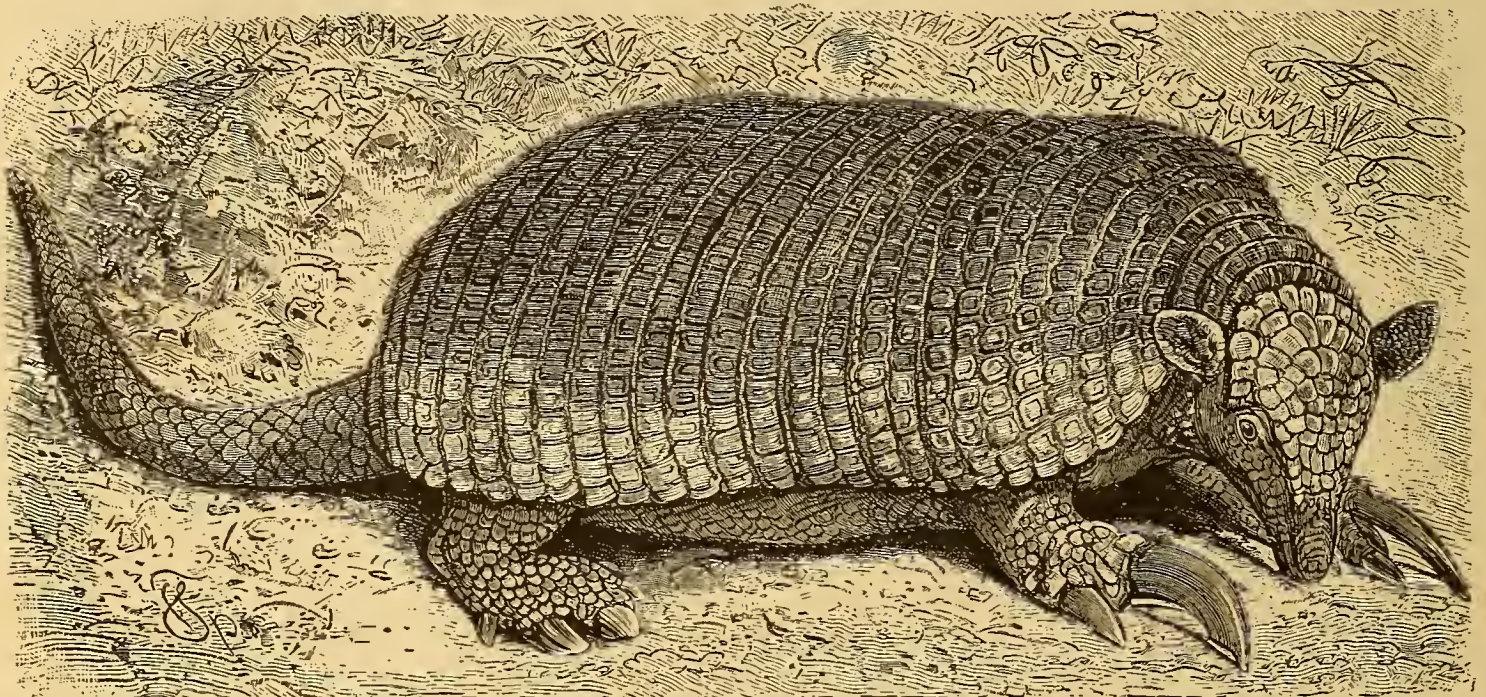
In some parts of Africa and South America, there are great numbers of large ants. These ants do not live in tiny holes, each marked by a little mound of sand, as those in this country do. The African Ants build great cone-shaped hills of clay, which are taller than a man's head. These are filled with hollow cells and chambers in which the ants live. One might think they would be quite safe within their earthen home, but the ANT-EATER, with its strong claws, is able to tear holes in the clay walls. It



GREAT ANT-EATER, OR ANT BEAR (Tropical South America).
Length of body, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; tail, 3 feet; color, black and gray.

then thrusts its long, narrow tongue, covered with a slimy, sticky substance, among the swarming insects, which run toward the hole to defend their nest, and draws its tongue back into its mouth completely covered with ants, which it quickly swallows.

The Ant-Bear, as the South American Ant-Eater is generally called, is much better looking than its African relative. It has a glossy, black and white coat and remarkably bushy tail, with which it is said to cover its body when asleep. It moves with a slow and awkward gait, treading upon the sides of its fore-paws, as the long curved claws, with their sharp points, are used only in tearing down the ant hills, and are, therefore, not to be dulled or worn away by contact with the ground.



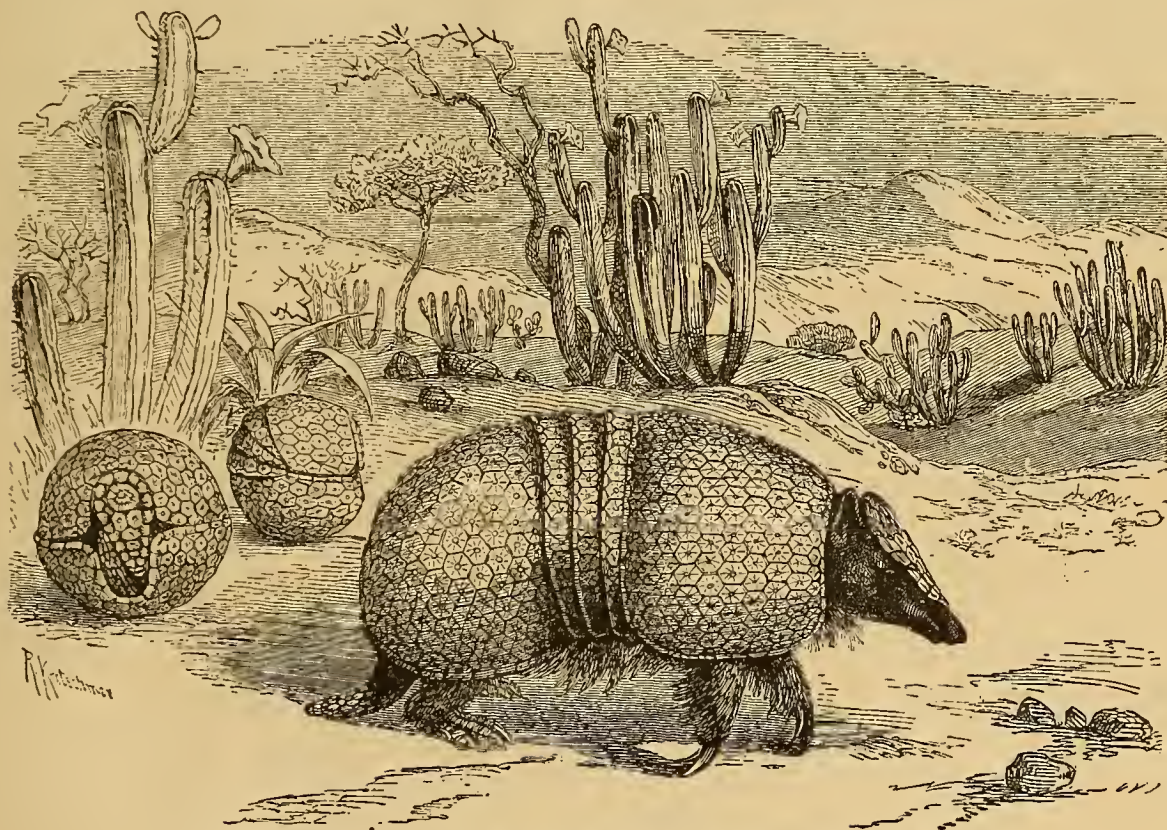
GREAT ARMADILLO ; South America.
Length of body 3 feet ; tail 18 inches.

THE ARMADILLO.

The Armadillos are remarkable for the hard, bony covering which grows upon the upper parts of their bodies, and serves much the same purpose as the shell of the turtle, in protecting them from harm. The Armadillos are found in South America ; there are several different kinds, varying in length from fifteen inches—which is the smallest, to three feet, which is the size of the giant Armadillo shown in the picture. Though rather a fierce-looking creature, with coat of mail and long, horny claws, the Armadillo is timid and harmless, feeding, generally, upon insects and vegetables, but occasionally

devouring the dead bodies of other animals, which it may find in its midnight rambles,—for it usually sleeps by day, and comes out to feed only after the sun has set.

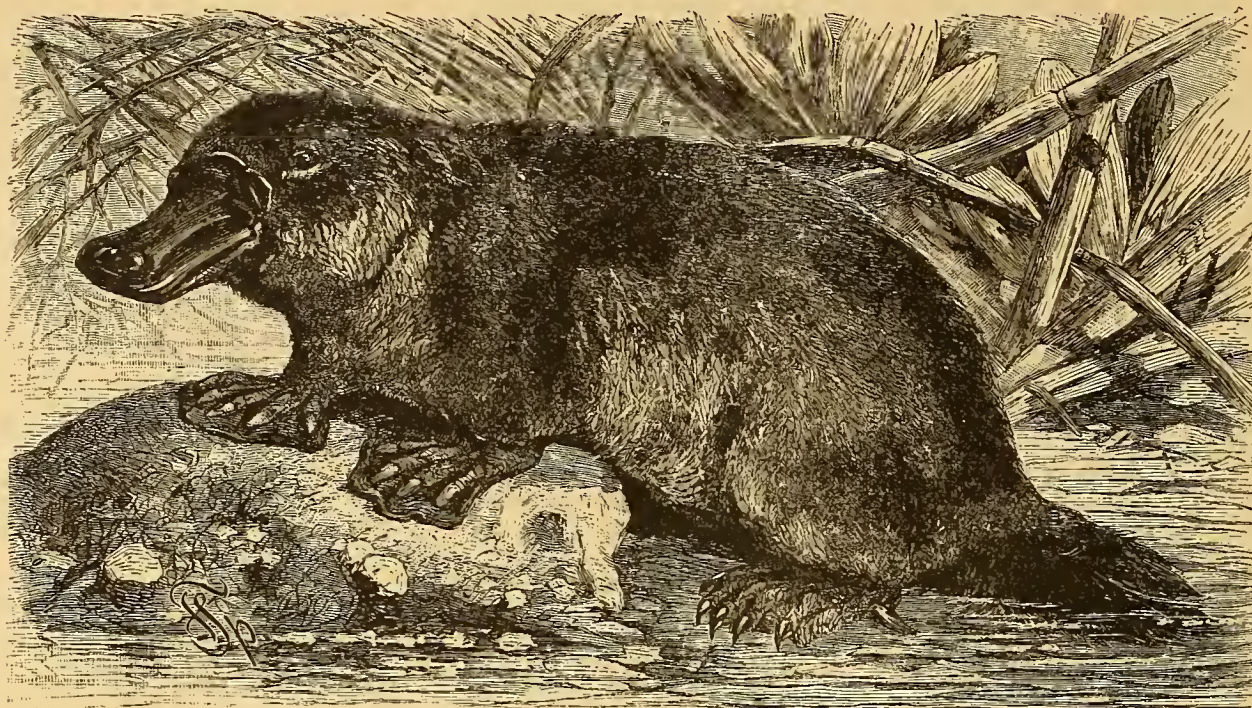
Burrowing in the ground is the chief business in life of the Armadillos, and to fit them for this, their claws are very long, and the strength of their short, muscular legs so great that, while they are burrowing, the loose earth flies backward in a perfect shower, and the animal disappears from sight in a few moments after beginning to dig. It has been said of the Armadillo, that, like the hyena, it will dig into the graves of men, and devour the



THREE-BANDED, OR BALL ARMADILLO; South America.
Length 15 inches; color brown.

bodies it finds there. The South American hunter, or collector of gum and bark, who may die in that dense tropical forest, is therefore buried by his companions in a grave lined with timbers or heavy stones, to protect it from these night-burrowing, armor-coated beasts.

The smallest of the Armadillos is called the Ball Armadillo, from its strange power to roll itself up into a round ball; it is then protected on every side by its thick horny skin. This is a great advantage to the little creature in the wild region where it dwells, for when thus snugly curled up in its hard, armor-like coat, neither head nor leg can be seen, and no prowling wolf, or other four-footed enemy will care to touch it.



DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS, OR WATER-MOLE; Australia.

Length of body 20 inches, tail 8 inches; color dusky brown. The feet are broadly webbed, giving the creature great swimming powers. The fur is short and very thick, having, when wet, a fishy odor.

DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS.

The last of the Wild Animals which shall be described is the strange, DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS, or WATER-MOLE, of Australia. Although it has the body and legs of an animal, its nose is like a duck's bill. Singular in its habits, as well as in shape, it seems equally at home on the land or in the water. When on land it seldom can be seen, as it lives in an underground nest, hollowed out of the river bank. This nest is reached by a burrow, twenty to thirty feet long, which has an entrance under the surface of the stream, as well as on the shore.

The Water-Moles swim with ease, and are fond of diving, and paddling about in the water. They remain, usually, but a few moments upon the surface, and then seek the bottom. When feeding, the bill is thrust into the mud and among the roots of water plants. At such times the actions of the animal are very much like those of a duck or a goose, when feeding near the river bank.

The bill of the WATER-MOLE is not made of horn. It is simply a long nose covered with hard skin, which overlaps at the sides, forming a fringe. This skin is also carried back, nearly to the eyes, in a kind of flap, which aids in protecting the face of the creature when forcing its bill into the mud.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 008 852 004 A